Muda Scantrad

BILLY BAT

ビリーバット

CHAPTER 70 - OPPOSING BILLIES

RAW PROVIDER: BILLYDOG
TRANSLATOR: KEWL0210
CLEANER: QASZ
TYPESETTER: KAGEHITSU
PROOFREADER: QASZ
QUALITY CHECKER: QASZ

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MUDA SCANS
IS
WOULD LOVE TO HEAR YOUR FEEDBACK
TRANSLATORS
CLEANERS
TYPESETTERS
PROOFERS
QUALITY CHECKERS
RAW-PROVIDERS
JOIN OUR FORUMS!
RECRUITING NEW POSITIONS
ANYONE IS WELCOME
MAKING THE PAGE TOO LONG YET
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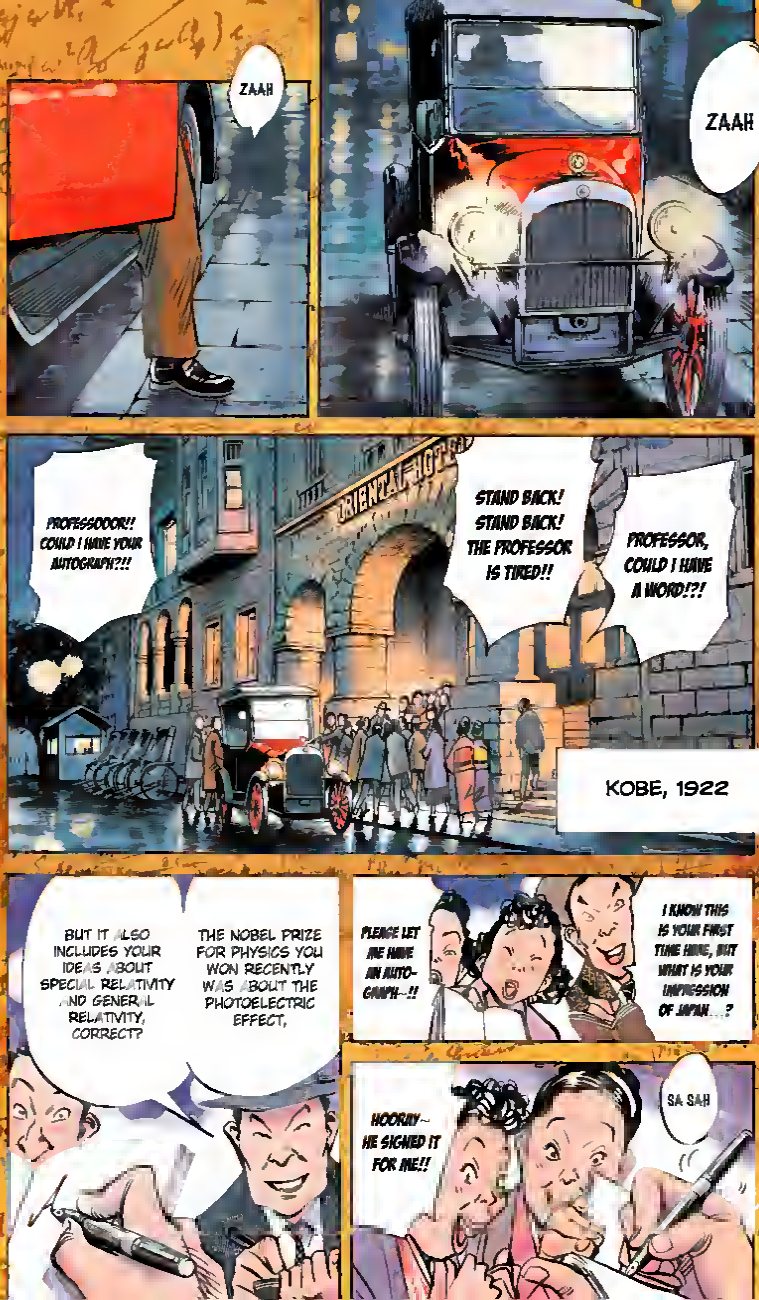
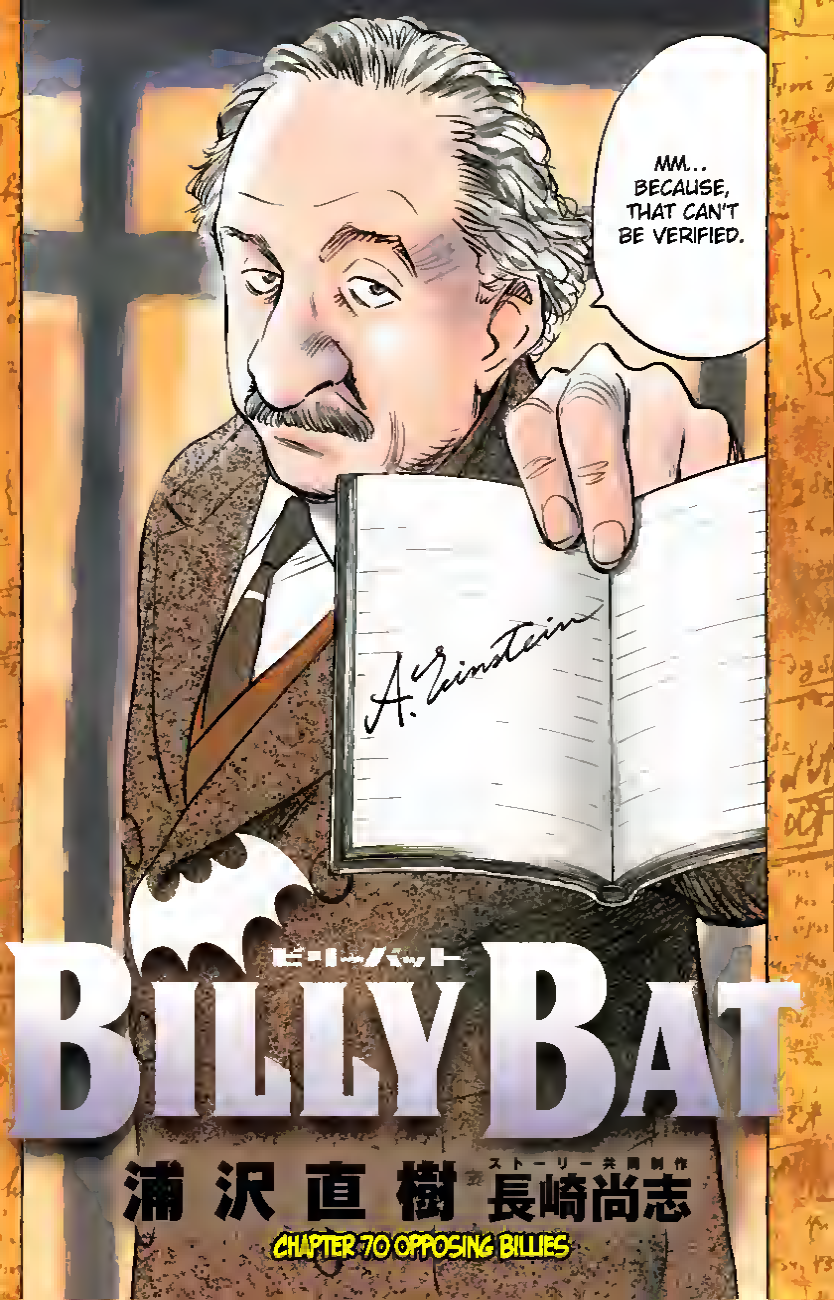
WE HAVE COOKIES!


ZAAH
ZAAH
PROFESSOOOR!! COULD I HAVE YOUR AUTOGRAPH?!!
STAND BACK! STAND BACK! THE PROFESSOR IS TIRED!!
PROFESSOR, COULD I HAVE A WORD!?!
KOBE, 1922
BUT IT ALSO INCLUDES YOUR IDEAS ABOUT SPECIAL RELATIVITY AND GENERAL RELATIVITY, CORRECT?
THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR PHYSICS YOU WON RECENTLY WAS ABOUT THE PHOTOELECTRIC EFFECT,
PLEASE LET ME HAVE AN AUTO-GRAPH--!!
I KNOW THIS IS YOUR FIRST TIME HERE, BUT WHAT IS YOUR IMPRESSION OF JAPAN...?
HOORAY~ HE SIGNED IT FOR ME!!
SA SAH

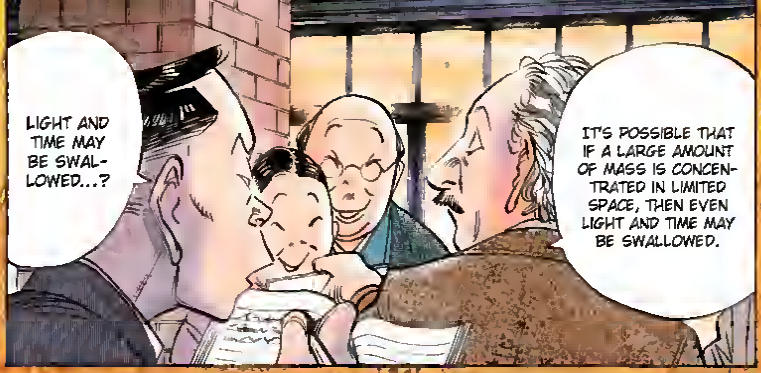


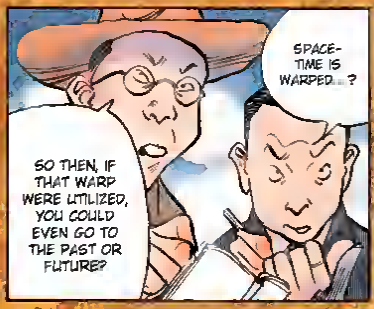
ビリーバット
BILLY BAT

浦沢直樹 ストーリー共同制作 長崎尚志

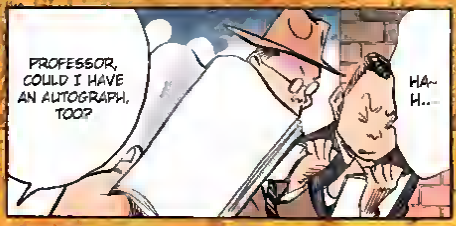
CHAPTER 70 OPPOSING BILLIES

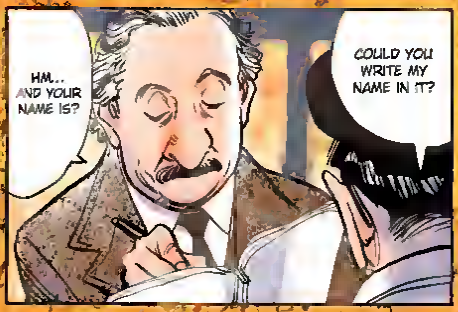
IN SPACE THERE IS A FORCE OF GRAVITY THAT IS NOT THE FORCE OF ATTRACTION
I RESPECT NEWTON, BUT HE WAS MISTAKEN...
SO THEN, PROFESSOR EINSTEIN, REGARDING NEWTONIAN MECHANICS...
UWA~~~ IT'S REAL! IT'S HIS REAL SIGNATURE!!
MOST LIKELY...
IS IT TRUE THAT IN PLACES WHERE GRAVITY DIFFERS, THE PROGRESSION OF TIME CHANGES?
YES, AND THOSE ARE ALL THE QUESTIONS HE'LL BE TAKING! STAND BACK---!!
IS THAT TRUE?!
IN PLACES WHERE A STRONG GRAVITATIONAL FORCE IS MEASURED, THE SPEED AT WHICH TIME PROGRESSES IS SLOWER COMPARED TO PLACES WHERE LOWER FORCES OF GRAVITY ARE MEASURED.
TIME IS NOT CONSTANT IN SPACE.

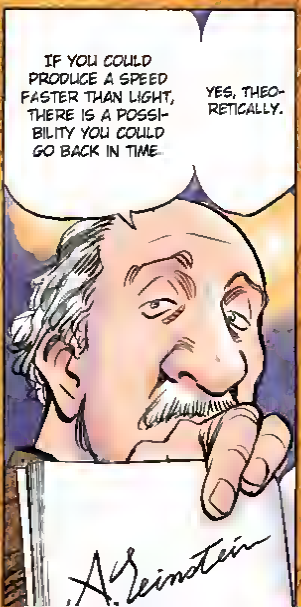

LIGHT AND TIME MAY BE SWALLOWED...?
IT'S POSSIBLE THAT IF A LARGE AMOUNT OF MASS IS CONCENTRATED IN LIMITED SPACE, THEN EVEN LIGHT AND TIME MAY BE SWALLOWED.

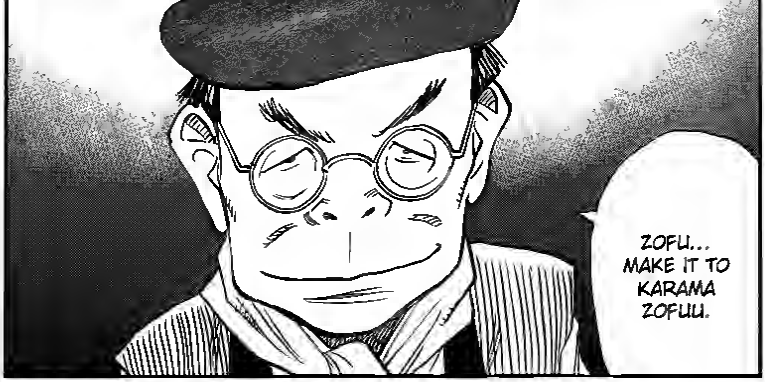

SPACE-TIME IS WARPED...?
SO THEN, IF THAT WARP WERE UTILIZED, YOU COULD EVEN GO TO THE PAST OR FUTURE?

IN OTHER WORDS, SPACE AND SPACE-TIME ARE IN A CONTINUUM. SPACE-TIME ISN'T HOMOGENOUS, IT'S WARPED

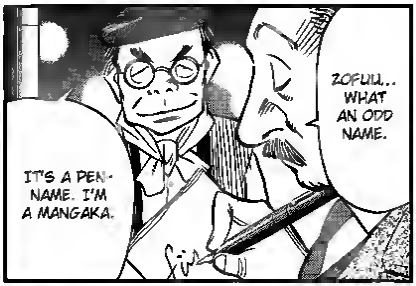

PROFESSOR, COULD I HAVE AN AUTOGRAPH, TOO?
HA~H...

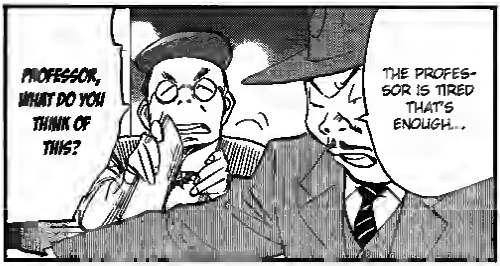

HM... AND YOUR NAME IS?
COULD YOU WRITE MY NAME IN IT?

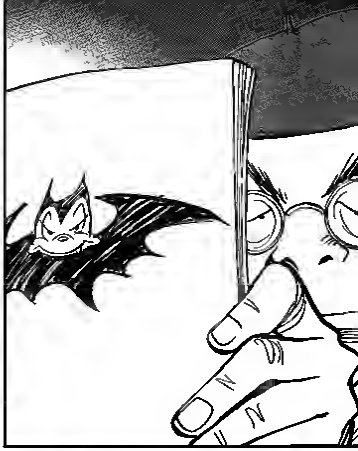

IF YOU COULD PRODUCE A SPEED FASTER THAN LIGHT, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME.
YES, THEORETICALLY.
A. Einstein

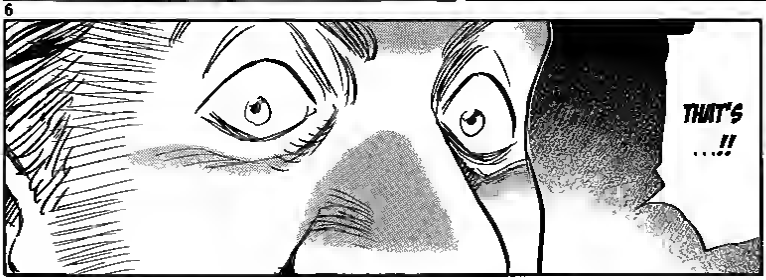

ZOFU... MAKE IT TO KARAMA ZOFUU.

AH- WAIT A SECOND.

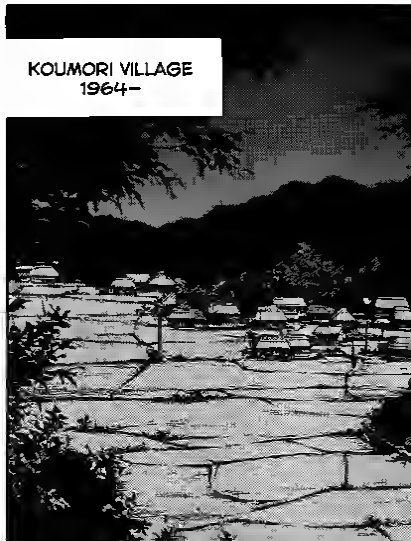

ZOFUU... WHAT AN ODD NAME.
IT'S A PEN-NAME. I'M A MANGAKA.

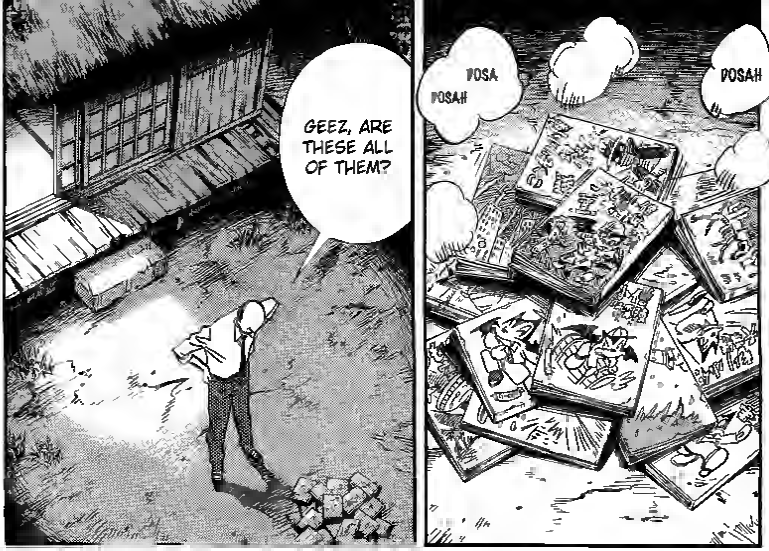

PROFESSOR, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?
THE PROFESSOR IS TIRED THAT'S ENOUGH...




THAT'S
...!!

DOSA
DOSA!!


KOUMORI VILLAGE
1964-

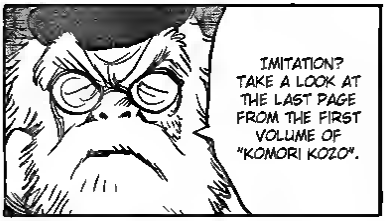

GEEZ, ARE THESE ALL OF THEM?
POSA
POSA!!
POSA!!

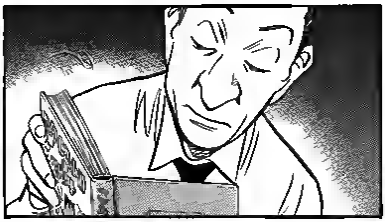
KOMORI KOZO NO DAIBOKEN
THIS "KOMORI KOZO" SERIES YOU DREW...

AND WHAT'S MOST TERRIBLE IS THIS.
IT'S ABSOLUTELY TERRIBLE...
THIS STORY ABOUT THIS SHIMOYAMA MAN BEING KILLED...

モーニング
HEY...DON'T YOU THINK SO YOURSELF, ZOFUU-SENSEI?
YOU REALLY HAVE BAD TASTE
BASA
AREN'T YOU ASHAMED?
ZOFUU-SENSEI,
I'D SAY WE BOTH HAVE BAD TASTE. I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH EXCELLENT ROPE TYING TECHNIQUE...
DON'T YOU THINK THIS IMITATION IS RUDE TO BILLY BAT?
THIS "KOMORI KOZO" SERIES..

IT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE 11TH YEAR OF THE TAISHOU ERA... THAT'S 1922 IN ANNO DOMINI...
THE "KOMORI KOZO" SERIES STARTED IN AN AGE WHERE NO TRACE OF BILLY BAT EXISTED.


IMITATION? TAKE A LOOK AT THE LAST PAGE FROM THE FIRST VOLUME OF "KOMORI KOZO".



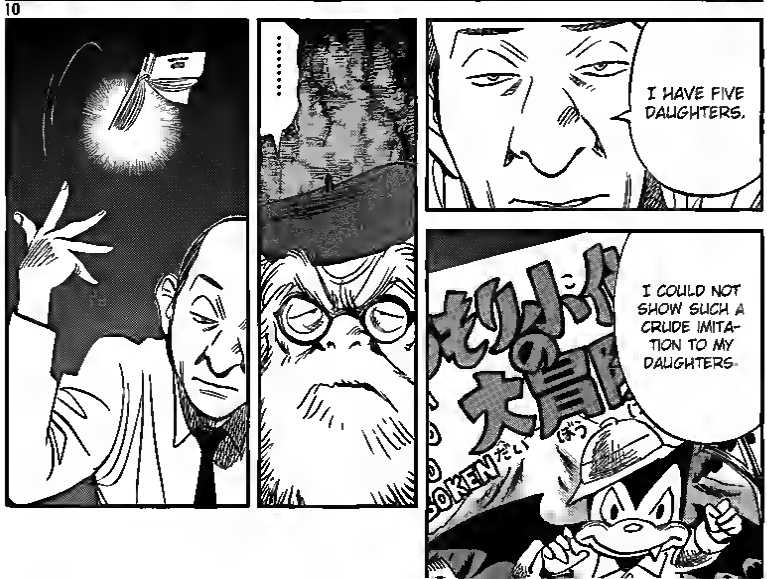
WHICH ONE CAME FIRST.
IT REALLY DOESN'T MATTER

IT'S WHICH ONE IS RIGHT.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

AND YOUR "KOMORI KOZO" HERE,
NOW, LOOKING AT CULKIN-SENSEI'S "BILLY BAT" HERE,
BILLY BAT
No.32
BILLY BAT
CRUDE CULKIN
YOU CAN TELL JUST FROM LOOKING AT THEM, CAN'T YOU? WHICH ONE IS RIGHT...

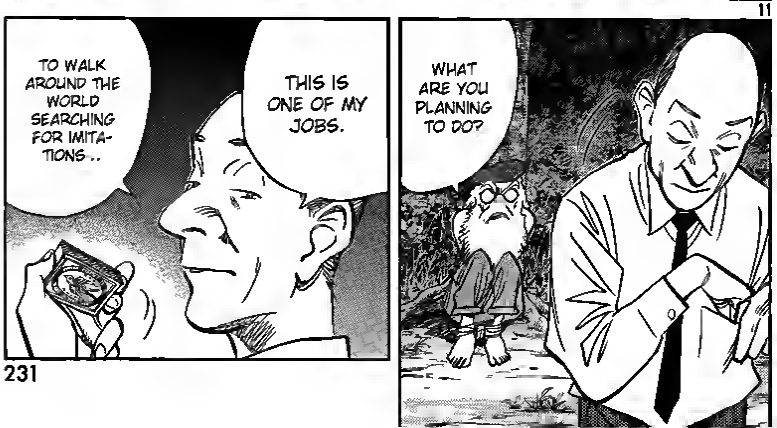
10

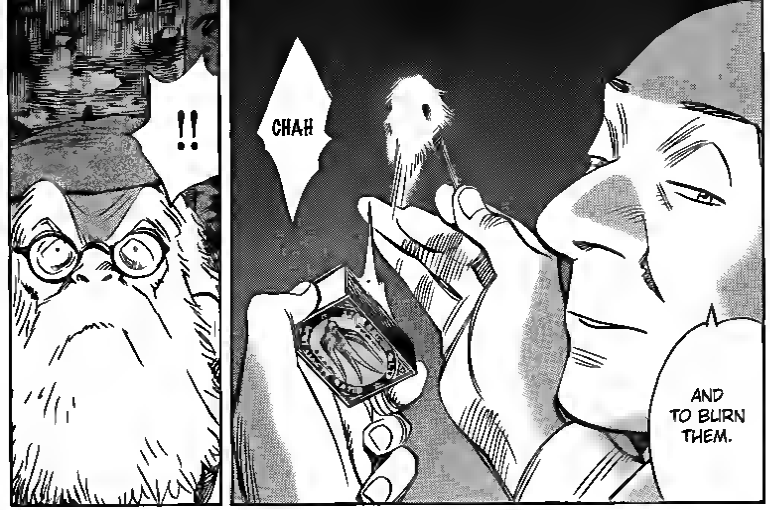

I HAVE FIVE DAUGHTERS.
I COULD NOT SHOW SUCH A CRUDE IMITATION TO MY DAUGHTERS.

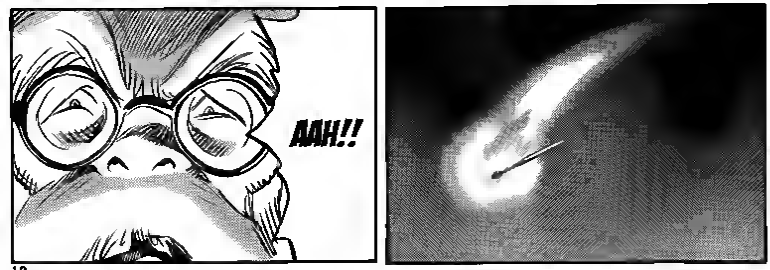
BILLY BAT
No.32
BILLY BAT
CHUCK CULKIN
ONLY THIS IS THE RIGHT ONE.
ONLY CULKIN-SENSEI'S "BILLY BAT"! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

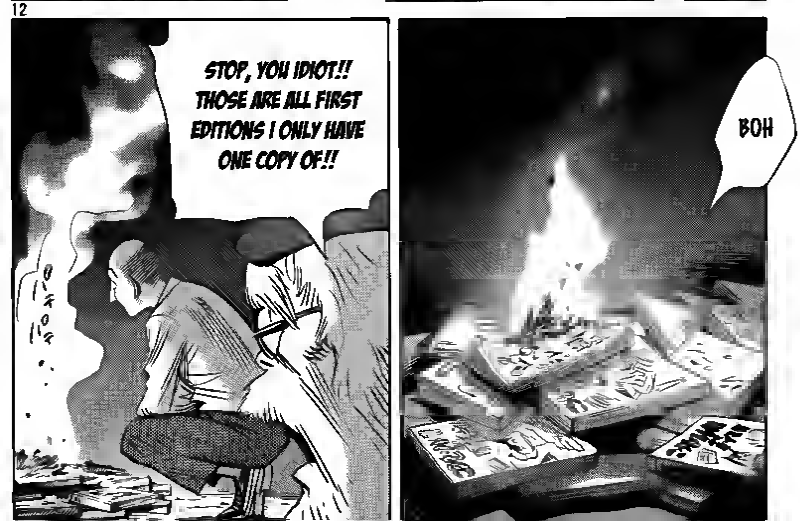
AH... THIS REALLY IS ALL OF THEM, YES?
NOW THEN, FIRST LET'S DO SOMETHING ABOUT THESE CRUDE IMITATIONS..
.....

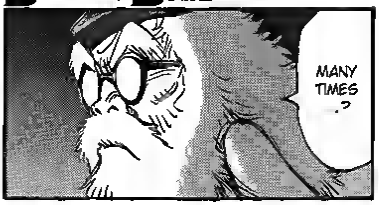
11


TO WALK AROUND THE WORLD SEARCHING FOR IMITATIONS..
THIS IS ONE OF MY JOBS.
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?

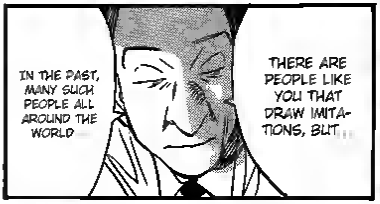

!!
CHAH
AND TO BURN THEM.


AAH!!


STOP, YOU IDIOT!! THOSE ARE ALL FIRST EDITIONS I ONLY HAVE ONE COPY OF!!
BOH


MANY TIMES...?

THAT'S WHY I'M BURNING THEM.
IT'S SOMETHING I'VE DONE MANY TIMES NOW...
パチ
パチ


IN THE PAST, MANY SUCH PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE WORLD...
THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU THAT DRAW IMITATIONS, BUT...

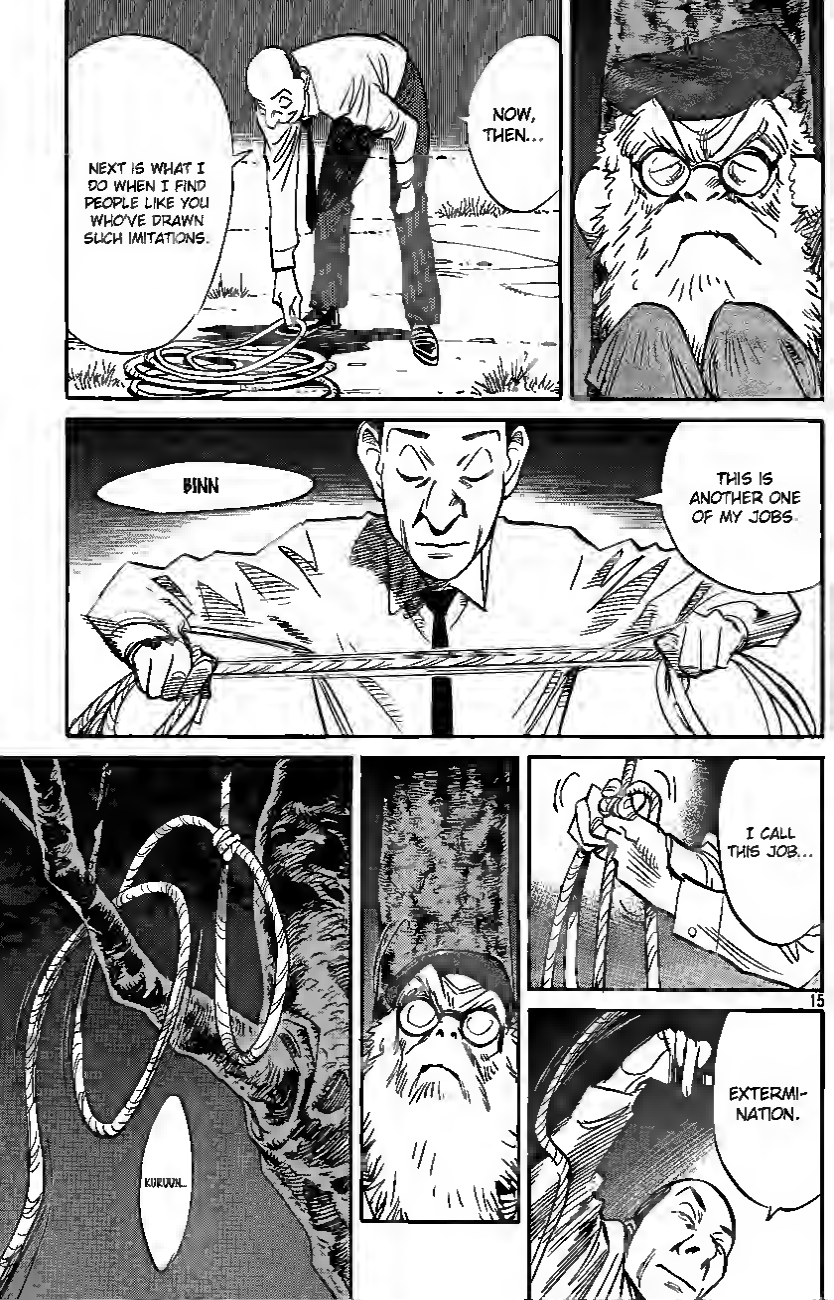
MANY PEOPLE IN THE PAST...

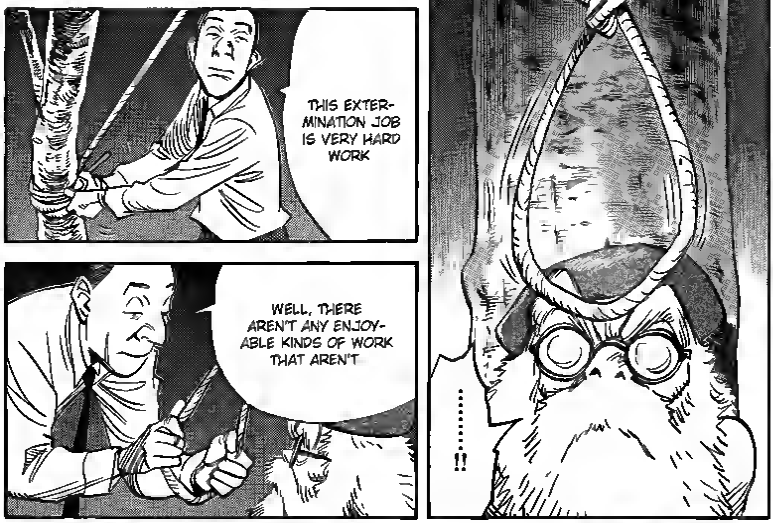
PACH!
PACH!
WERE FOUND, AND THOSE IMITATIONS WERE BURNED LIKE THIS.

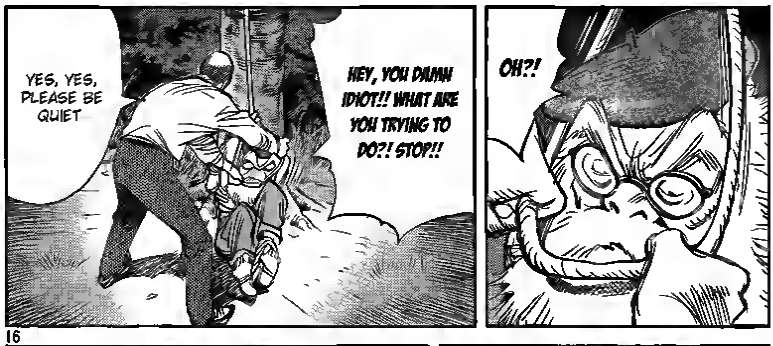
IN ARCHIVES STORING HISTORIC BOOK COLLECTIONS...
A BACK ALLY SECOND-HAND BOOKSTORE IN EUROPE... AN OLD WAREHOUSE IN SOUTH AMERICA...
YES.

MY GOD...
AND I STEADILY FIND THEM AND BURN THEM.
THEY'RE THERE TO FIND.
CULKIN-SENSEI'S BILLY IS THE ONLY RIGHT BILLY.
BUT I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I?

WILL BE CULKIN-SENSEI'S BILLY BAT.
SO THE ONLY BILLY BAT AROUND THE WORLD,

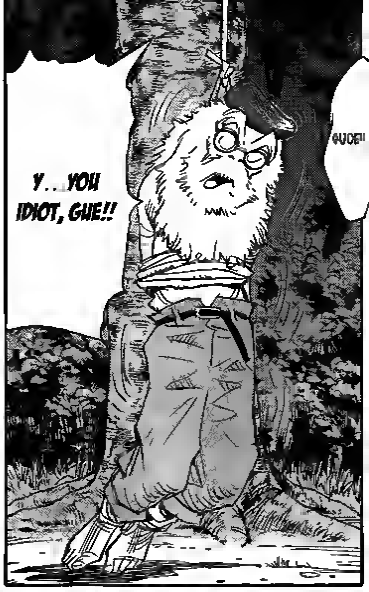

NOW, THEN...
NEXT IS WHAT I DO WHEN I FIND PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO'VE DRAWN SUCH IMITATIONS.
BINN
THIS IS ANOTHER ONE OF MY JOBS.
I CALL THIS JOB...
EXTERMI-NATION.
KURUUN...


THIS EXTERMINATION JOB IS VERY HARD WORK
WELL, THERE AREN'T ANY ENJOYABLE KINDS OF WORK THAT AREN'T
.....!!


YES, YES, PLEASE BE QUIET
HEY, YOU DAMN IDIOT!! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?! STOP!!
OH?!

BUT, BOTH THAT AND THIS ARE FOR BILLY'S SAKE
UNTIE ME DAM-MIIIIIT!!
LIKE HELL I WILL!!

AND FOR THE CHILDREN THAT LOVE BILLY.


Y...YOU IDIOT, GUE!!
GUOE!!

AH.. YES.
GUE GUOE!!

GUHO, GUE...

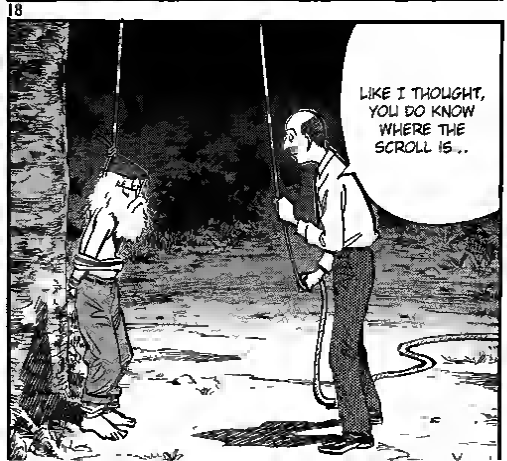
ARE THESE REALLY ALL OF YOUR "KOMORI KOZO"? YOU DIDN'T ENTRUST SOME TO ANYONE, DID YOU?

WHERE IS THE SCROLL?

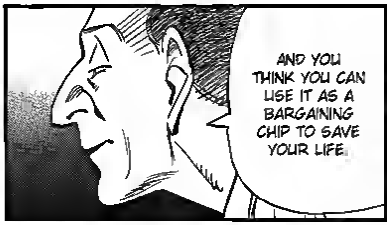
GUE
AH... AND THERE WAS ONE MORE THING I WANTED TO ASK.

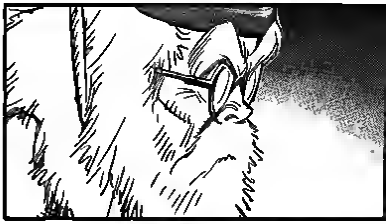
AS I THOUGHT THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE REALLY AFTER?
YOU'VE EXPOSED YOURSELF.

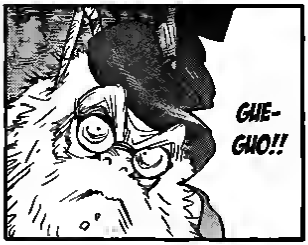
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME, THE LOCATION OF THE SCROLL WILL FALL INTO THE DARKNESS


LIKE I THOUGHT, YOU DO KNOW WHERE THE SCROLL IS..

IT IS NOT.
GUIH
GUE!! OUH!!

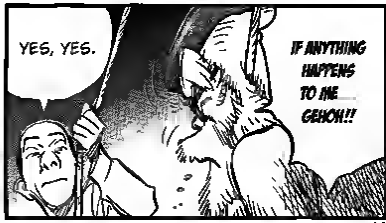

AND YOU THINK YOU CAN USE IT AS A BARGAINING CHIP TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.




GUE-GUO!!

YOU WOULDN'T SAY WHERE THE SCROLL WAS EVEN UNDER THREAT OF DEATH ANYHOW.
GUIH
I WON'T LISTEN TO ANY BARGAINS.

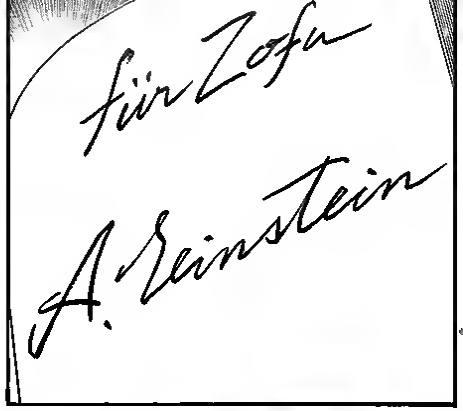
AND KILL YOUR PARENTS!!
I'LL GO BACK TO THE PAST...


YES, YES.
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME GEHOH!!

GUEH
YOUR... YOUR...

モーニング
HUH?
Pardon?
I'M SAYING, WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN WHEN I GO BACK TO THE PAST AND KILL YOUR PARENTS?!!
IT'S STILL BURNING. LOOK AT THE SKETCH-BOOK ON THE RIGHT EDGE!!

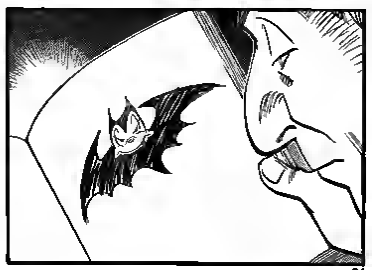
A. EIN-
STEIN
...?

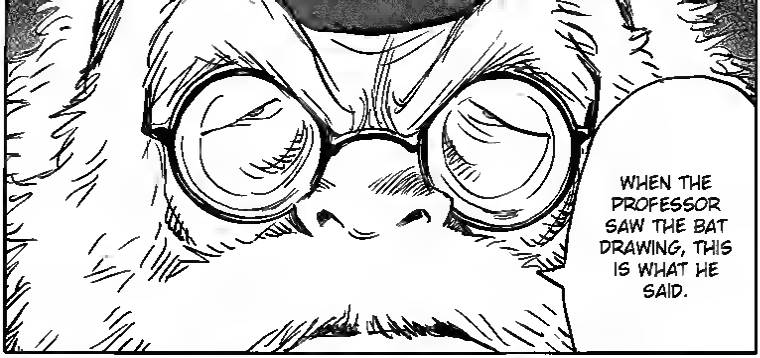

für Zofia
A. Reinstein

I MET THE PROFESSOR DIRECTLY AND SHOWED HIM THE DRAWING OF THE BAT.

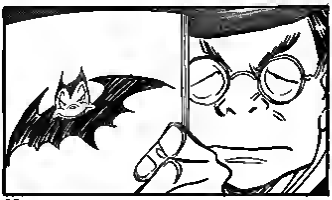
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S REAL.

IT WAS AFFIRMED BY EIN-STEIN.
WHAT I'M SAYING ISN'T A THREAT OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

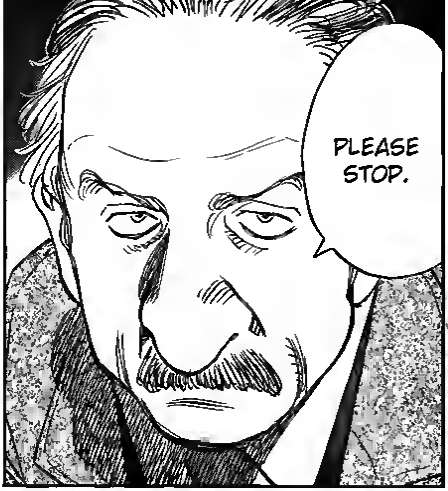


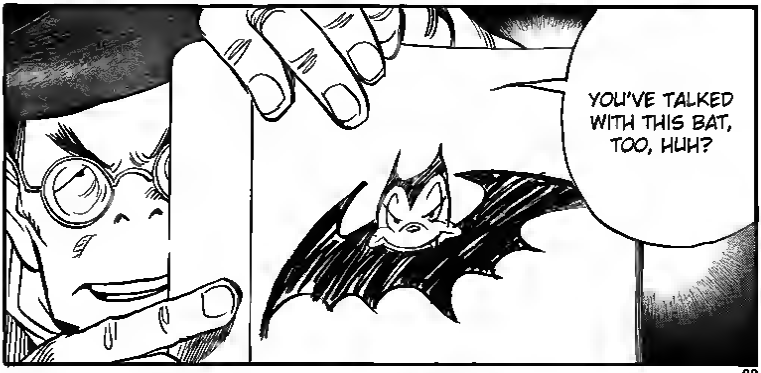

WHEN THE PROFESSOR SAW THE BAT DRAWING, THIS IS WHAT HE SAID.

THAT'S



I KNEW IT, YOU KNOW THIS GUY, TOO.


PLEASE STOP.


YOU'VE TALKED WITH THIS BAT, TOO, HUH?

ナ!!

SOMETHING TERRIBLE WILL HAPPEN.
LEARN FROM YESTERDAY, LIVE FOR TODAY, HOPE FOR TOMORROW... QUOTED FROM PROFESSOR EINSTEIN.
PLEASE ABANDON SUCH THINGS AS TIME TRAVEL.
"BILLY BAT" CHAPTER 70 / END
THE NEXT CHAPTER APPEARS IN ISSUE 52
GOING ON SALE 11/24! LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

Muda Scantrad

BILLY BAT

ビリーバット

CHAPTER 70 - OPPOSING BILLIES

RAW PROVIDER: BILLYDOG
TRANSLATOR: KEWL0210
CLEANER: BAD_JUNIOR
TYPESETTER: KAGEHITSU
PROOFREADER: MOURI_SHIN
QUALITY CHECKER: AGILEBEAST

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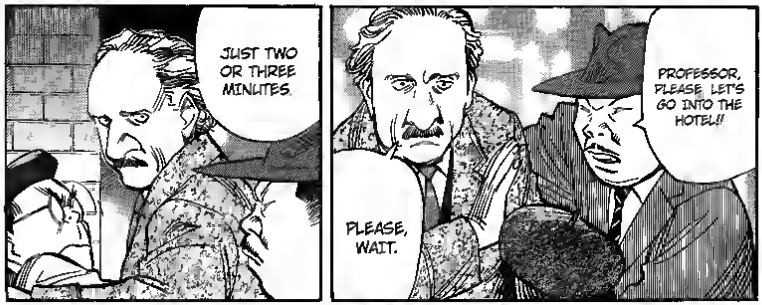
HAVING REACHED HUMAN HISTORY'S GREATEST GENIUS, EINSTEIN, WHAT IS THE MOST HIDEOUS AND TERRIBLE TRUTH...!?
PLEASE STOP! STOP THINKING ABOUT SUCH TERRIBLE THINGS!!
TIME TRAVEL, EH...?
JUST AS I THOUGHT, YOU DO KNOW ABOUT IT.
浦沢直樹
ストーリー共同制作
長崎尚志
WHY DO YOU THINK TIME TRAVEL IS SO TERRIBLE, PROFESSOR EINSTEIN?
CHAPTER 71 TIME TRAVEL AND INFINITE EARTHS
ビリーバット
BILLY BAT
NAOKI URASAWA + TAKASHI NAGASAKI PRESENT
速報!! 単行本累計300万部突破!!
メガヒット連載!! 単行本第7巻絶賛発売中!!



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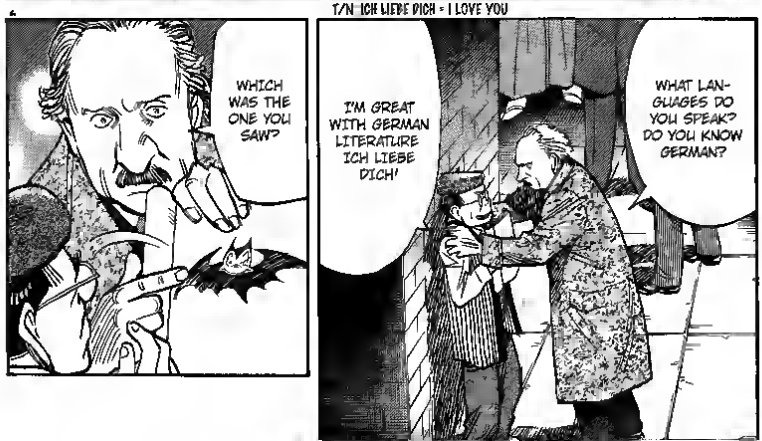
T/N: ICH LIEBE DICH = I LOVE YOU



THERE'S A BLACK AND A WHITE ONE?
YES!! AND IT'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!
WHICH..?
I'M ASKING IF YOU SAW THE BLACK ONE OR THE WHITE ONE?!
THIS GUY TALKS TO ME.
I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
IF YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW SOMETHING LIKE THAT, STAY OUT OF THESE AFFAIRS!
WHAT'S TERRIBLE ABOUT TIME TRAVEL?
IF YOU IGNORE HIM FOR A WHILE, HE'LL STOP APPEARING.
BUT, EVEN IF HE TALKS TO YOU, NEVER RESPOND TO HIM AGAIN.
THEN I WON'T SPEAK BADLY OF YOU.

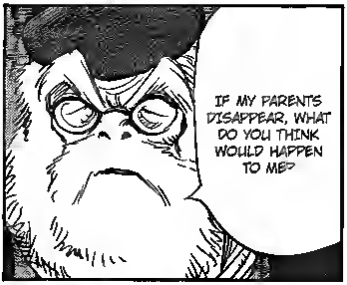
IF YOU DELVE ANY DEEPER INTO THIS, THEN...
I'LL TRAVEL THROUGH TIME...
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOU'VE VERY GOOD WITH GERMAN, SO I'LL PUT THIS SIMPLY.
AND KILL YOUR PARENTS.
HA AH HA HHA HH AH!!
KOUMORI VILLAGE 1964

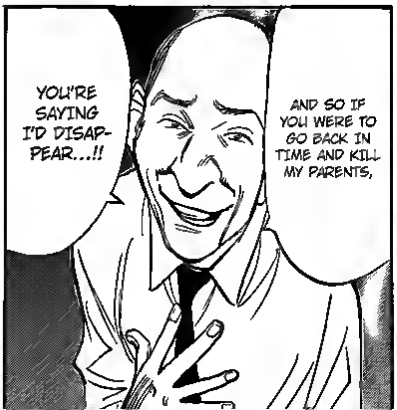
AND THAT HE WOULD GO BACK IN TIME AND KILL YOUR PARENTS . ?
BECAUSE PROFESSOR EINSTEIN SAID THAT TIME TRAVEL WAS POSSIBLE.

HAHHAHHAH THAT'S YOUR CERTIFIED REASON?

AND WHAT DID THE PROFESSOR SAY WOULD HAPPEN IF HE DID THAT?

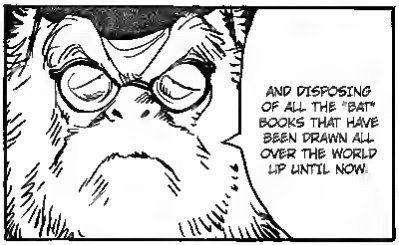
HAHA-HAHA!!


IF MY PARENTS DISAPPEAR, WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN TO ME?

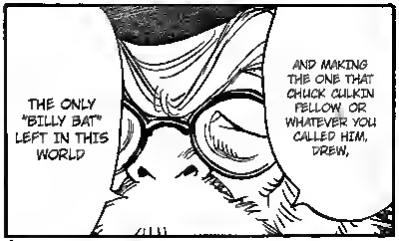

YOU'RE SAYING I'D DISAP-PEAR...!!
AND SO IF YOU WERE TO GO BACK IN TIME AND KILL MY PARENTS,

SO THE GREATEST GENIUS SCHOLAR IN HISTORY SAID THAT YOU YOU, DID HE?

HMPH. EVEN THE THING YOU DESIRE IS SOMETHING SIMILAR.


AND DISPOSING OF ALL THE "BAT" BOOKS THAT HAVE BEEN DRAWN ALL OVER THE WORLD UP UNTIL NOW.

YOU'RE BURNING MY "KOMORI KOZO"BOOKS ...


AND MAKING THE ONE THAT CHUCK CULKIN FELLOW OR WHATEVER YOU CALLED HIM, DREW,
THE ONLY "BILLY BAT" LEFT IN THIS WORLD

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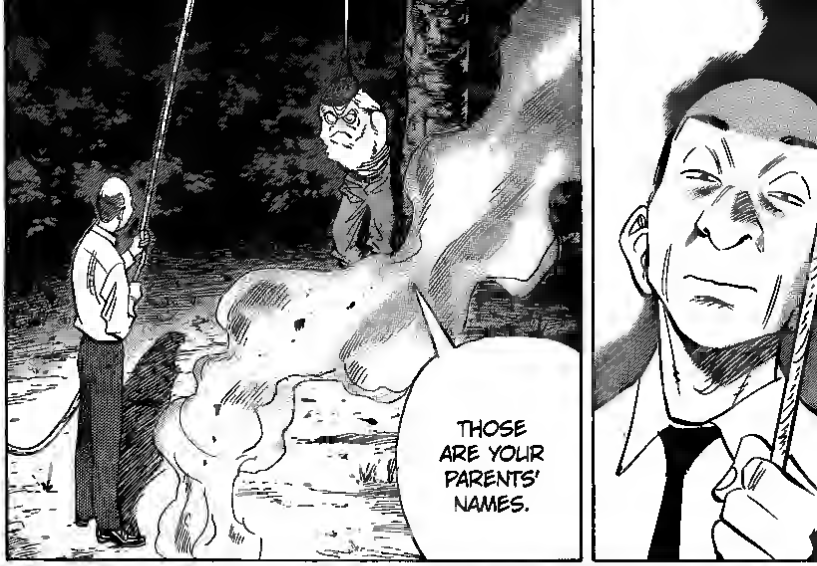
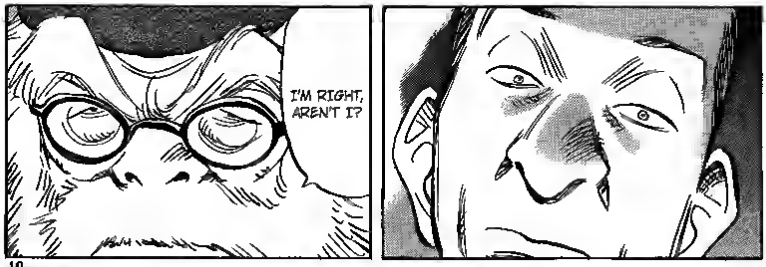
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU'RE FALSIFYING HISTORY.
EVEN THOUGH YOURS IS A SHAM, YOU'RE DESTROYING THE GENUINE ARTICLES AND PURPORTING YOURS TO BE THE ACTUAL GENUINE ONE!

IF YOU BURN THE REST TO ASHES, THE ONLY GENUINE ARTICLE LEFT WILL BE THAT SCROLL
IF YOU HAVE THAT SCROLL, YOU CAN CONTROL TIME.
THE SCROLL.
BUT, WHAT YOUR BOSS IS REALLY AFTER IS,
SOMEONE LIKE YOUR BOSS, IS THE MOST DANGEROUS.
FOR SOME AMATEUR WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHETHER THE BAT IS BLACK OR WHITE TO GET INVOLVED WITH THIS,
GUI
GUIHOU!!
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN LET AN IMBECILE LIKE THAT CONTROL TIME!!

GUOE GUOH!!
KUH
HOW UN-SEEMLY.
TO BE SPOUTING NONSENSE IN THE FACE OF DEATH.
UGU... GUO...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE STORY ABOUT YOU TRAVELING TO THE PAST AND KILLING MY PARENTS?
IS IT, NOW?
IS AN IMITATION OF THE "BILLY BAT" MY DISCIPLE KEVIN YAMAGATA DREW!!
THE CHUCK CULKIN "BILLY BAT" YOU LOVE SO MUCH,
AND MY "KOMORI KOZO" IS AN IMITATION OF MY MASTER!!
OH? PLEASE DO GO ON.
AND KEVIN YAMAGATA'S "BILLY BAT" IS AN IMITATION OF MY "KOMORI KOZO"!!

YES .. NEARLY FIFTY YEARS AGO, MY MASTER SAID THIS TO ME.
YOUR MASTER ...?
I'LL KILL THEM!!
ZOFULL, WHEN YOU ARE APPROACHED BY LIFE-THREATENING DANGER...
CISSY AND GARY.
NO!!
THOSE ARE THE NAMES OF THE LOVER AND ENEMY CHARACTERS THAT APPEAR IN "BILLY BAT". WHAT ABOUT THEM?
CISSY AND GARY...

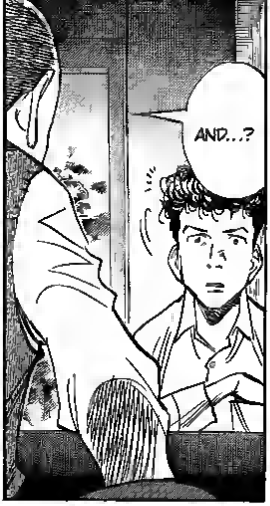

THOSE ARE YOUR PARENTS' NAMES.


I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I?

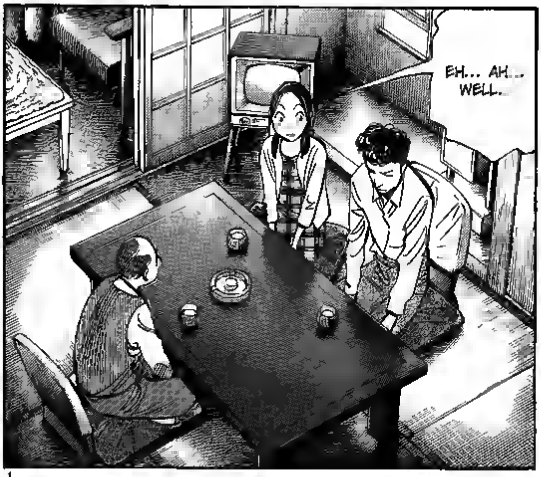
IT SEEMS WHAT MY MASTER TOLD ME REALLY WAS TRUE.
GUH-O GEEH!!
GUIH
QUIT SPOUTING RANDOM GIBBERISH.

MY MASTER WAS A FEARSOME MAN. HE WOULD COMMIT MURDER WITHOUT BATTING AN EYE!!
ABOUT NOW, HE IS NEARING YOUR PARENTS!!
NEAR CISSIE AND GARY BEFORE YOU WERE BORN!!

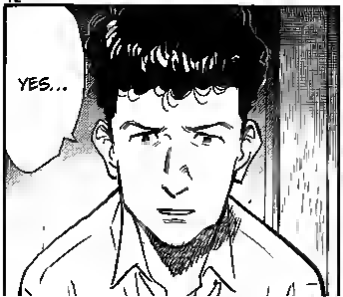
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!!
GUE GUOOO!!
GISHIH

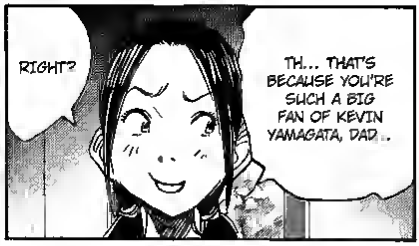

AND...?

.....


EH... AH... WELL..

WHY DID THE TWO OF YOU SUDDENLY BECOME SO CLOSE?


YES...


RIGHT?
TH... THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SUCH A BIG FAN OF KEVIN YAMAGATA, DAD..

HMM ..
THAT'S FINE, BUT, WHY IS MR KEVIN JOINING US FOR OUR GRAVE VISIT?
TH . THAT'S IT, HE'S DOING RESEARCH!!
MR. KEVIN JUST HAPPENED TO BE GOING TO THE KII PENINSULA TO DO RESEARCH!!
HAHA...
AH. AAH, Y YEAH, I GUESS IT'S KINDA WEIRD
IT'S RESEARCH FOR A NEW WORK
AND EVEN THOUGH HE CALLS IT RESEARCH, I'M A LITTLE INTERESTED IN IT MYSELF
WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO STOP BY THIS PLACE CALLED KOUMORI VILLAGE BEFORE WE VISIT THE GRAVE SITE...?
THE THREE OF US AREN'T VERY FAMILIAR WITH JAPAN, SO I THOUGHT WE WOULD FEEL MORE AT EASE IF WE WENT TOGETHER
HMM ..

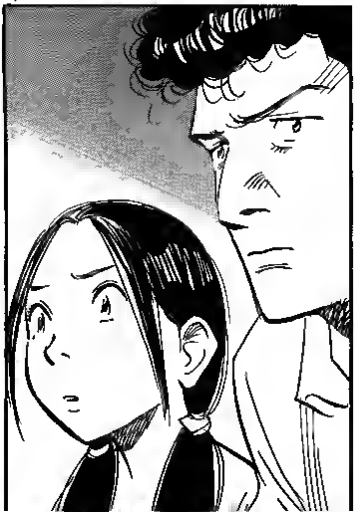
MIGHT IT BE THAT YOU TWO ARE...?

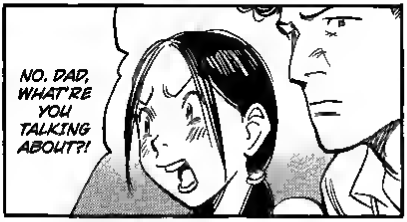
ZUZU

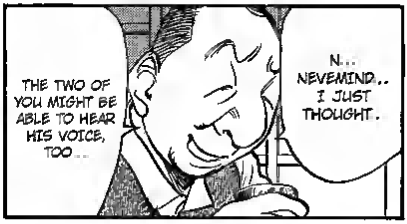
HUH?

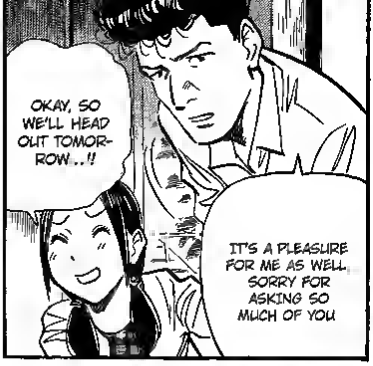
SOME KIND OF SECRET...
BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU, IS THERE...

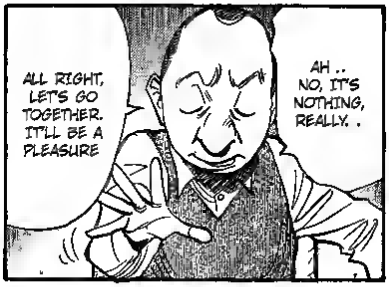
AH — IT'S NOTHING

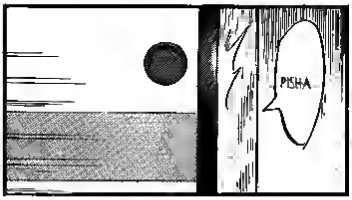


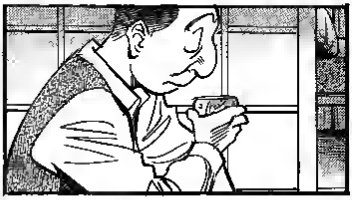

NO. DAD, WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!

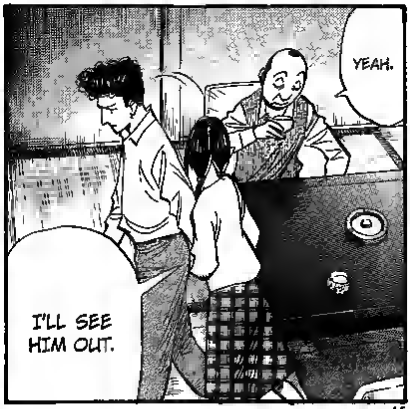

N... NEVEMIND.. I JUST THOUGHT.
THE TWO OF YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HEAR HIS VOICE, TOO...


OKAY, SO WE'LL HEAD OUT TOMORROW..!!
IT'S A PLEASURE FOR ME AS WELL. SORRY FOR ASKING SO MUCH OF YOU


ALL RIGHT, LET'S GO TOGETHER. IT'LL BE A PLEASURE
AH.. NO, IT'S NOTHING, REALLY..

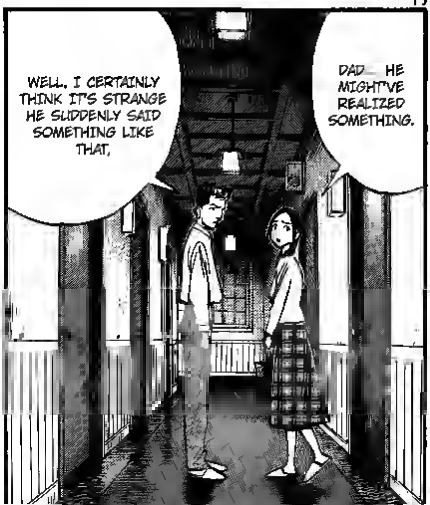

PISHA



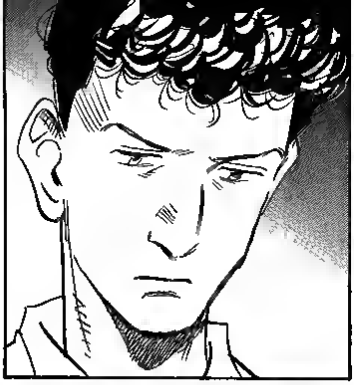

YEAH.
I'LL SEE HIM OUT.

BUT, RIGHT NOW I NEED YOUR POWER

JUST BY BEING ABLE TO HEAR THE BAT'S VOICE
POWER ...?


WELL.. I CERTAINLY THINK IT'S STRANGE HE SUDDENLY SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT,
DAD... HE MIGHT'VE REALIZED SOMETHING.

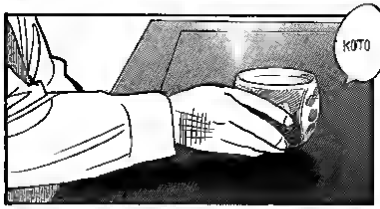
IF I CAN HELP OUT, I'LL DO ALL I CAN.
GOT IT.
ANYHOW, WE'VE GOT TO HURRY... SOMETHING'S HAPPENING TO MY MASTER...
RELIEVED...
TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST, I'M...
THANK YOU.
AND WHEN THAT HAPPENED TO THE ONLY OTHER PERSON WHO COULD TALK TO IT, MR. OSWALD...
MADE ME THINK I WAS CRAZY.
BEING THE ONLY ONE ABLE TO SEE AND TALK TO THE BAT,



HEY, WHAT DO YOU THINK THE BAT IS...?

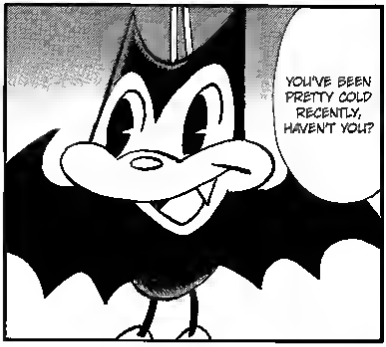
WE'RE GOING TO FIND THAT OUT.

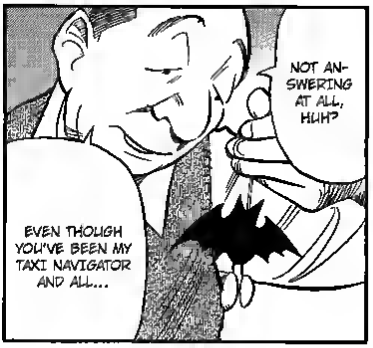
WELL, ANYHOW, I GET TO TRAVEL WITH THE AUTHOR OF MY FAVORITE COMIC, BILLY BAT...
WHAT ARE THOSE TWO THINKING ...?

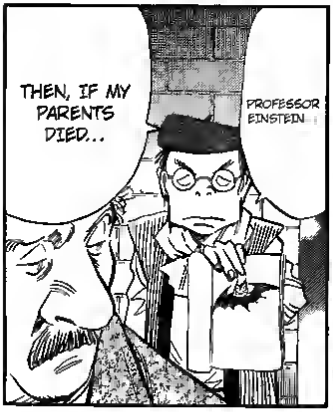

KOTO

MMMM-MMM

MAYBE IT'S FATE?


YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY COLD RECENTLY, HAVEN'T YOU?


NOT ANSWERING AT ALL, HUH?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE BEEN MY TAXI NAVIGATOR AND ALL...

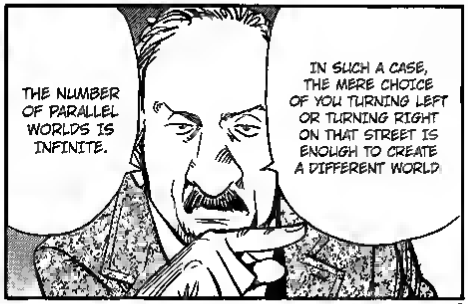

THEN, IF MY PARENTS DIED...
PROFESSOR EINSTEIN

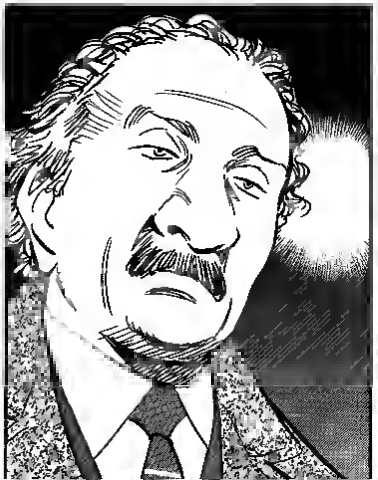
DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS ...?
YES AS IN, A WORLD YOU EXIST IN AND A WORLD YOU DON'T EXIST IN.

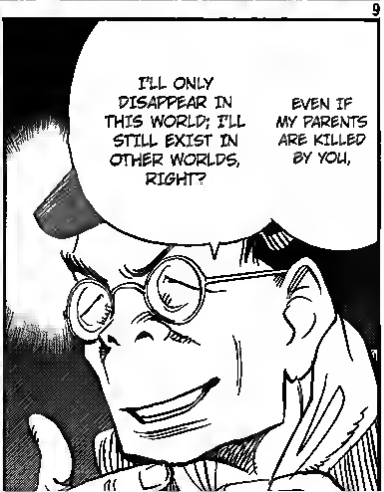
I WOULD DISAPPEAR, TOO?

ARE YOU REFERRING TO PARALLEL WORLDS. THE WORLDS OF DIFFERENT DIMENSIONS?

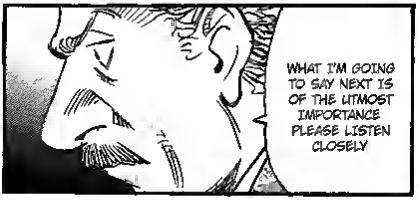
THEN THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF

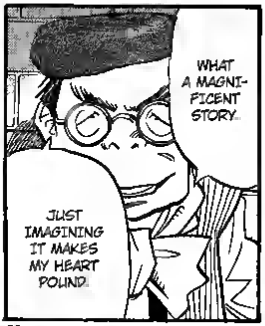

THE NUMBER OF PARALLEL WORLDS IS INFINITE.
IN SUCH A CASE, THE MERE CHOICE OF YOU TURNING LEFT OR TURNING RIGHT ON THAT STREET IS ENOUGH TO CREATE A DIFFERENT WORLD

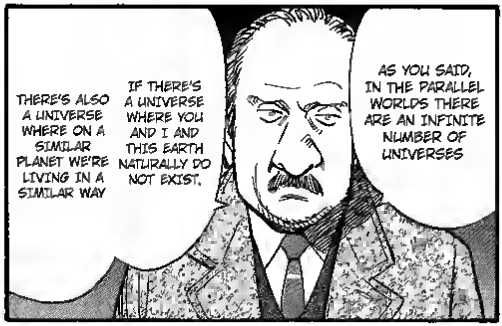



I'LL ONLY DISAPPEAR IN THIS WORLD; I'LL STILL EXIST IN OTHER WORLDS, RIGHT?
EVEN IF MY PARENTS ARE KILLED BY YOU,

PROFESSOR, WE REALLY NEED TO GET GOING


WHAT I'M GOING TO SAY NEXT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE PLEASE LISTEN CLOSELY


WHAT A MAGNIFICENT STORY.
JUST IMAGINING IT MAKES MY HEART POUND.


AS YOU SAID, IN THE PARALLEL WORLDS THERE ARE AN INFINITE NUMBER OF UNIVERSES
IF THERE'S A UNIVERSE WHERE YOU AND I AND THIS EARTH NATURALLY DO NOT EXIST.
THERE'S ALSO A UNIVERSE WHERE ON A SIMILAR PLANET WE'RE LIVING IN A SIMILAR WAY

I'D LIKE TO DRAW A MANGA ABOUT THAT
INFINITE UNIVERSES AND INFINITE EARTHS EXIST...

AND AN INFINITE NUMBER OF ME EXIST.

?

NO, THEY DON'T.

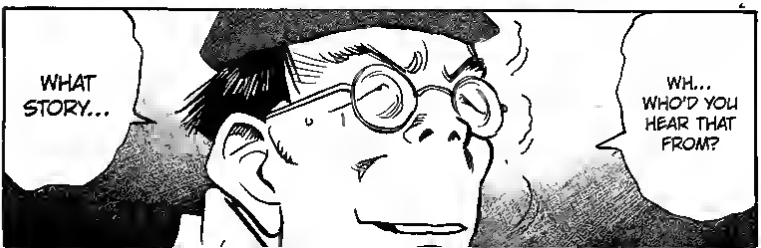
THE SAME GOES FOR THE EARTH, THE ONLY ONE THAT EXISTS IS THIS ONE.

THE ONLY YOU THAT EXISTS IS YOU.

YOU CAN SEARCH EVERY UNIVERSE, AND THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER EARTHS.

THEY WERE ALL DESTROYED.
WH... WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHERS?

NOW, THE ONLY EARTH IS THIS ONE HERE.


WHAT STORY...
WH... WHO'D YOU HEAR THAT FROM?

HE SAYS THAT ALL OF THE INFINITE EARTHS IN THE INFINITE UNIVERSES, THEY'VE ALL DISAPPEARED LEAVING ONLY ONE REMAINING?!
"BILLY BAT" CHAPTER 71 / END
NEXT CHAPTER COMES OUT 12/8 IN COMBINED ISSUE 2-3! LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

Muda Scantrad

BILLY BAT

ビリーバット

CHAPTER 71 - VARIOUS LIVES

RAW PROVIDER: BILLYDOG
TRANSLATOR: KEWL0210
CLEANER: QASZ
TYPESETTER: KAGEHITSU
PROOFREADER: MOURISHIN
QUALITY CHECKER: QASZ

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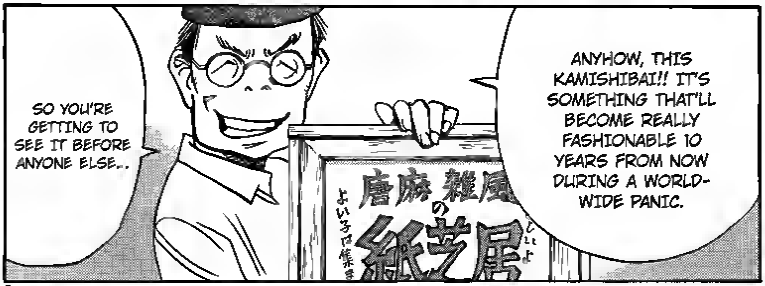
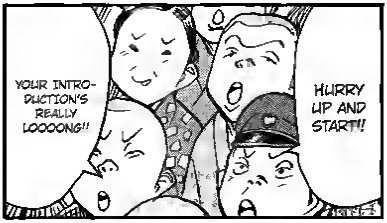
THE NEW INVENTION OF THE GREAT, UP-AND-COMING MANGAKA, KARAMA ZOFUU! WITH THE TURN OF A PAGE, YOU'LL SPLIT YOUR SIDES LAUGHING. WILL IT HAVE A LOT TO OFFER FOR ENTERTAINMENT?
GATHER 'ROUND, GATHER 'ROUND!!
COME ON NOW, BOYS AND GIRLS!!
WHAT IS THAT, MISTER?
IS SOMETHING STARTING?
WHAT? WHAT IS IT?
A KAMISHIBAI, LITERALLY A "PAPER DRAMA," IS AN OLD FORM OF STORYTELLING USING PICTURE SCROLLS TO CONVEY STORIES. THIS WAS USED BEFORE MANGA BECAME PREVALENT IN THE '50'S
WHAT A GENEROUS OLD MAN! HURRY AND START!!
ARE YOU GONNA SHOW IT TO US FOR FREE?
OH, THIS?! THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL A KAMISHIBAI!!
NEXT TIME, I'VE GOTTA SELL SOME MIZUAME OR SOMETHING OR I'M GONNA BE RIPPED OFF BY THESE KIDS...
AH, RIGHT...
KAMI-SHIBAI —!?
TOKYO 1920—
MIZUAME, LITERALLY "WATER CANDY," IS A CLEAR, SYRUPY SWEETENER MADE BY CONVERTING STARCHES TO SUGAR. AND IT IS EATEN LIKE HONEY.

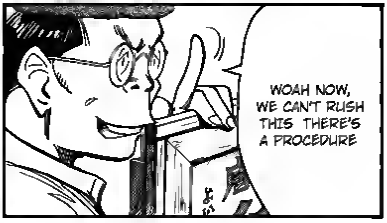
EH— AHEM
WELL, TODAY, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE FIRST PRESENTATION IN THE COUNTRY, I'M HAVING A SPECIAL FREE BIG EXHIBITION!!
OOO OOOH!!
YOU KIDS REALLY ARE LUCKY!!

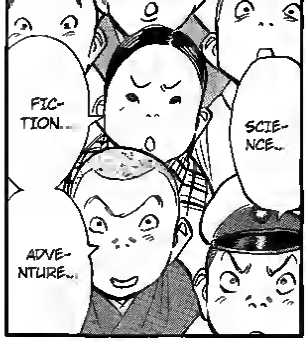

ANYHOW, THIS KAMISHIBAI!! IT'S SOMETHING THAT'LL BECOME REALLY FASHIONABLE 10 YEARS FROM NOW DURING A WORLD-WIDE PANIC.
SO YOU'RE GETTING TO SEE IT BEFORE ANYONE ELSE..
唐麻雑風
よいこは集まれ
紙芝居

2

THIS KAMISHIBAI I'M ABOUT TO SHOW YOU,
ISN'T AN OLD LEGEND LIKE THE KINDS YOU HEAR A LOT, IT'S A STORY ABOUT SOMETHING A LITTLE AHEAD YES, A NEAR-FUTURE STORY!!
唐麻
よいこは集まれ


YOUR INTRODUCTION'S REALLY LOOOONG!!
HURRY UP AND START!!


WOAH NOW, WE CAN'T RUSH THIS THERE'S A PROCEDURE



TL NOTE: KOUMORI SANTOU HEI = THIRD CLASS SOLDIER BAT

NAOKI URASAWA + TAKASHI NAGASAKI PRESENT

CHAPTER 72 VARIOUS LIVES

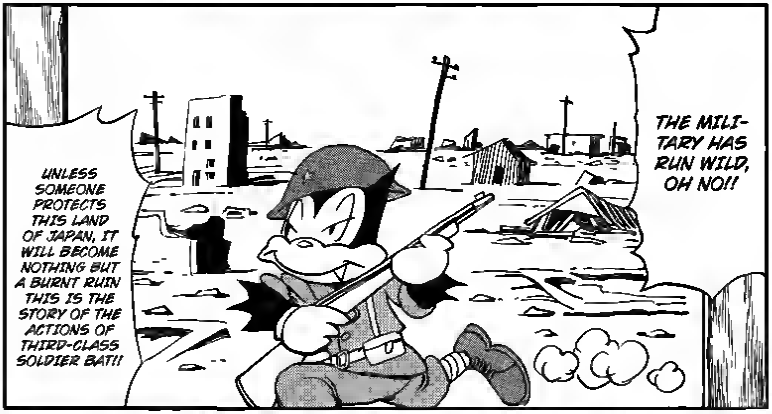
NOOOOW THEN, LET US BEGIN: "KOUMORI SANTOU HEI"!!

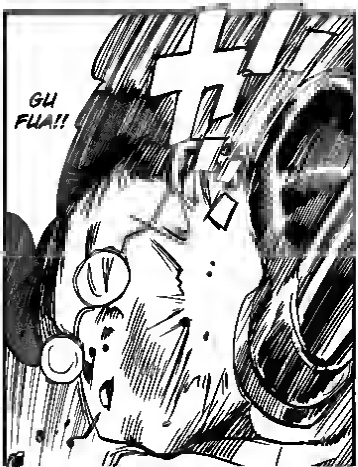
BILLY BAT

ビリーバット

浦沢直樹 ストーリー共同制作 長崎尚志

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR, AND THE SIBERIAN INTERVENTION ...
THE TIME PERIOD IS 20 YEARS FROM NOW, WITH JAPAN HAVING GATHERED STRENGTH FROM THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR,


UNLESS SOMEONE PROTECTS THIS LAND OF JAPAN, IT WILL BECOME NOTHING BUT A BURNT RUIN
THIS IS THE STORY OF THE ACTIONS OF THIRD-CLASS SOLDIER BAT!!
THE MILI-TARY HAS RUN WILD, OH NO!!


GU FUA!!

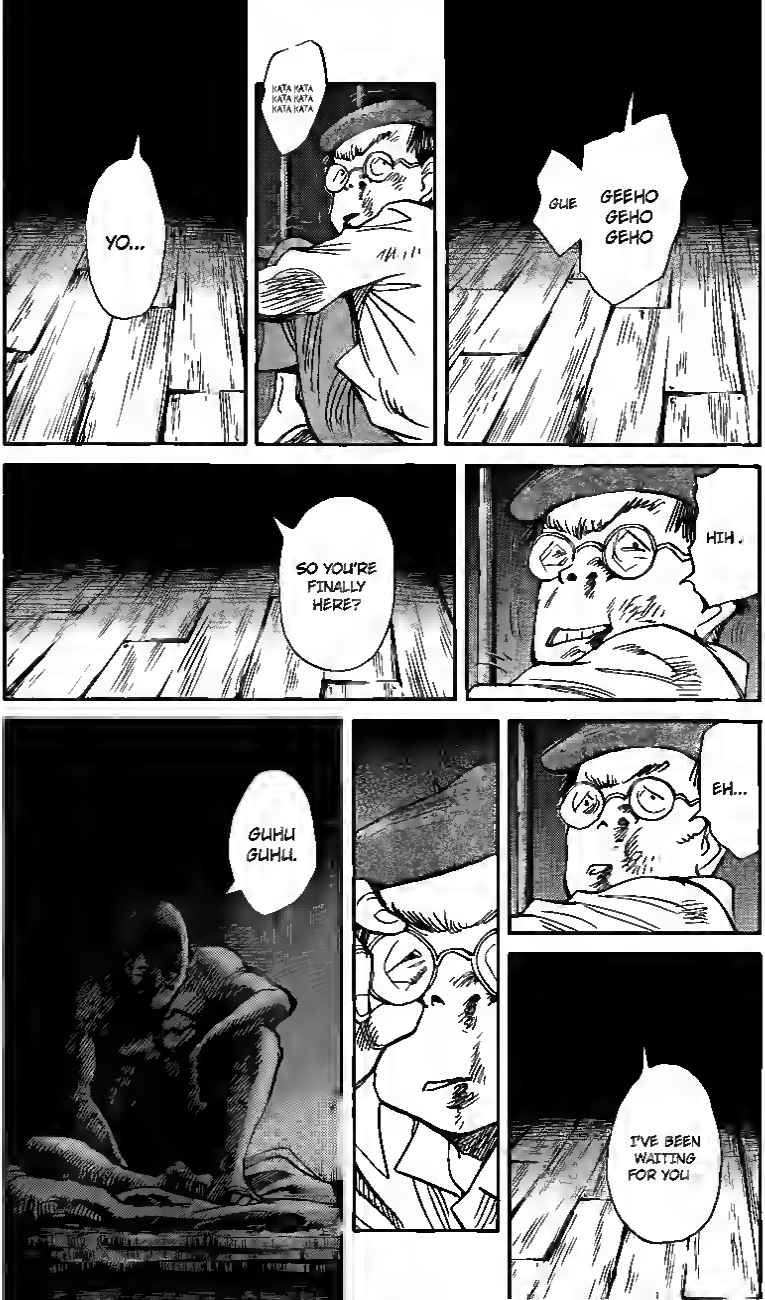
WHAT MILITARY HAS RUN WILD?!!
JAPAN'S GOING TO TURN TO BURNT RUIN, YOU SAY?!!
GEHU!!
STAND UP, TRAITOR!!
YOU'RE STILL SAYING IT?!!
BUT.. THE BAT IS THE ONE SAYING IT, SO THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO..
SFX: GAH
YES, SIR
LOCK HIM UP FOR INSURRECTION
GAKU
HOW'S IT GOING?
ZUZU.

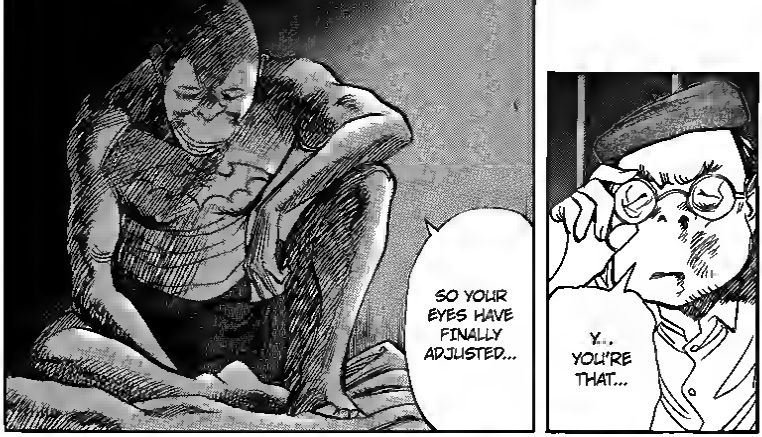
YES, NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE TRY TO SQUEEZE OUT OF HIM, HE KEEPS GIVING THE SAME ANSWER
THAT HE COULDN'T HELP IT BECAUSE THE BAT TOLD HIM TO .
HMPH... MAKING LIGHT OF US... IT MAKES ME SICK.
PERHAPS IT'S THAT AKA THAT'S BECOME PREVALENT RECENTLY
BUT, AS THINGS STAND, IT WON'T TURN INTO A MAJOR CRIME...
SHOULD WE LET HIM TEST HIS LUCK?
SIR?
I'M ASKING WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT US ACQUITTING HIM,
IF HE COMES BACK ALIVE?

THAT'S WHY I SAID TO LET HIM TEST HIS LUCK
AH YES COMING BACK ALIVE FROM THERE MAY BE IMPOSSIBLE.
KAH
KAH
KAH
CAN'T YOU HURRY UP AND WALK?!!
GET IN!!
GU-HA!!
THAT'S THE BERET THAT SEEMS SO IMPORTANT TO YOU. WE WENT OUT OF OUR WAY TO BRING IT TO YOU!!
BACAH!

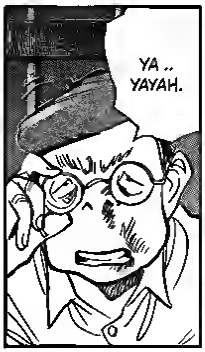
SOUVENIR ?
兵憲
BECAUSE WE THINK MAYBE IT'S A SOUVENIR
KEKE KEK...
!?
I MEAN, IT'LL BECOME A RELIC OF YOUR LIFE.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
BECAUSE THE REAL DEAL'S IN THERE.
HUH?
NOBODY WHO GOES INTO THAT CELL GETS OUT OKAY.

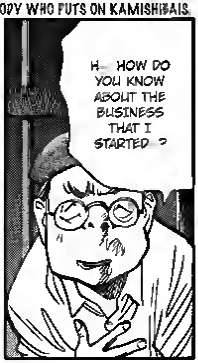
A MURDERER WHO'S KILLED WHO KNOWS HOW MANY PEOPLE.
DEEPER INSIDE THERE.
REAL DEAL?
HII!!
!!
GUOOO!!
GUO!!
HII!!


KATA KATA
KATA KATA
KATA KATA
YO...
GUE
GEEHO
GEHO
GEHO
SO YOU'RE
FINALLY
HERE?
HIH.
GUHU
GUHU.
EH...
I'VE BEEN
WAITING
FOR YOU



T/N: A KAMISHIBAIYA IS SOMEBODY WHO PUTS ON KAMISHIBAIS.





WH— WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
MINE CAME FIRST.
M... MY BAT!!
THAT'S THE BAT MANGA I CAME UP WITH!!
IF YOU START SAYING BULLSHIT, I'LL KILL YOU.
WAH!!

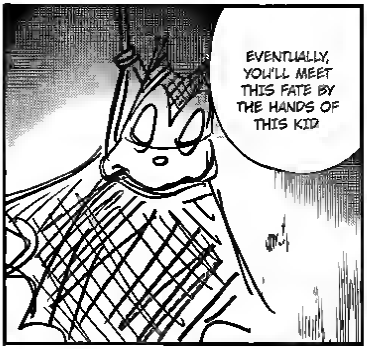
WHERE'D YOU GET THAT PICTURE FROM?
G... GET IT FROM...?
HIH..
IT LOOKS LIKE THE ONE DRAWN ON THE TELEPHONE POLE IN FRONT OF HORSEMEAT SHOP NEAR THE SHIN YOSHIWARA OOMON, DOESN'T IT?
A—

GU... GUHOH!!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST KILL ME?
GU...
NOW THEN, THE CONTINUATION OF THAT STORY ?
I WILL ONCE I'VE HEARD EVERYTHING.
WHY IS IT THAT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME, YOU'LL DISAPPEAR, YOU MEAN--?
VERY WELL.
YOU UNDERSTAND IT VEEEERY WELL
I'LL TELL YOU SO,

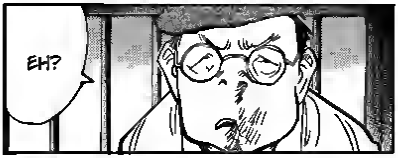
I HAD NO ILL INTENT, BUT I'VE ACCIDENTALLY,
IMITATED YOUR BAT PICTURE WITHOUT PERMISSION
I'M VERY SORRY.
WELL, IT'S OKAY.
ANYHOW, THOUGH I MAY LOOK LIKE THIS, I'M ALSO A BIT OF A MANGAKA
TAKE A LOOK AT MY LATEST WORK
LATEST WORK?
OOH... TH... THESE ARE,
OTHER MAGNIFI-CENT...

THEY GET MARRIED PUBLICLY...
SOMEHOW, A MAN FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY PROPOSES TO A WOMAN FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY...
SEEMS FRIGHTENING.
BUT, THE CHILD THEY GIVE BIRTH TO, SOMEHOW...
WOULD IT BE ALL RIGHT IF I CALLED YOU MY MASTER?
MMMMM IT'S ACTUALLY SKILLFUL ARTWORK AND A STRIKING STORY
AND FINALLY THIS CHILD GROWS UP TO LOOK LIKE A MONSTER...?
EH?
WHO DO YA THINK THAT IS?
ANYHOW, THIS BAT THAT IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S ABOUT TO KILL.

AND THEN, FINALLY, HE'S BEING HANGED BY THE NECK...
IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S GONNA BE EATEN...


EVENTUALLY, YOU'LL MEET THIS FATE BY THE HANDS OF THIS KID

THIS IS YOU.

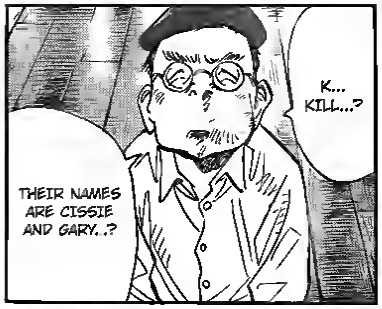

EH?

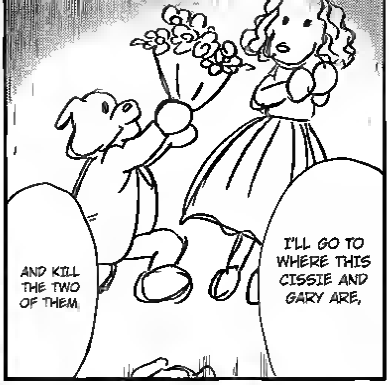
TO PROTECT YOU.

WH. WHY WOULD THIS HAPPEN TO..

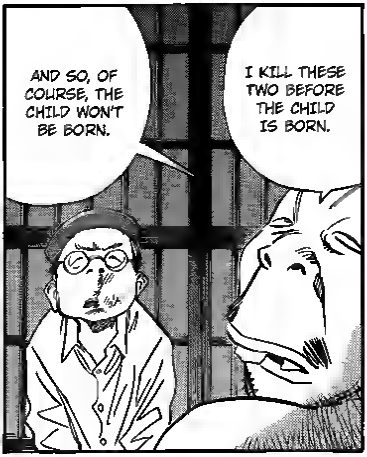
...AND THE BAT TOLD ME THIS.

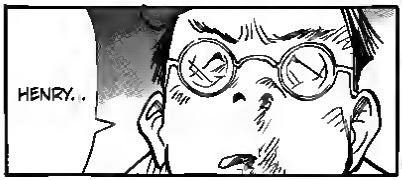
SCROLL ?
YEAH...
PROTECT ME? HOW..?
HE'S CONCERNED ABOUT THE SCROLL YOU'LL HAVE AT THAT TIME
THE SCROLL IS A RUBBER ERASER.
ERASER ...?
I... I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'CONCERNED ABOUT THE SCROLL'...
LIKE WITH A DRAWING ERROR...
ONLY THE PERSON WITH THE SCROLL CAN ERASE IT.
YOUR VOICE FROM THE FUTURE WILL REACH ME.
AND THEN I'LL BREAK OUT OF HERE..


K... KILL...?
THEIR NAMES ARE CISSIE AND GARY..?


I'LL GO TO WHERE THIS CISSIE AND GARY ARE,
AND KILL THE TWO OF THEM.

THEN THIS HENRY CHILD WON'T EXIST IN THIS WORLD.


I KILL THESE TWO BEFORE THE CHILD IS BORN.
AND SO, OF COURSE, THE CHILD WON'T BE BORN.


HENRY..

I'M QUITE SURE YOU SAID YOUR NAME IS HENRY CHARLES SOMETHING.

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?
QUITE A STORY TO BE A COINCIDENCE, DON'T YOU THINK? HENRY-SAN?
BY THE WAY, THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS A COINCIDENCE IN THIS WORLD
EVERYTHING IS CONSEQUENTIAL, HENRY-SAN.
AND THE SCROLL?
WHERE IS THE SCROLL?
HOHOH. THE LOOK IN YOUR EYES HAS SUDDENLY CHANGED
YOU HAD BETTER HURRY. MY MASTER SHOULD BE ESCAPING FROM HIS JAIL CELL RIGHT ABOUT NOW...

DON'T SAY THOSE NAMES SO CASUALLY.
HE MAY BE APPEARING IN FRONT OF CISSIE AND GARY AROUND NOW
STOOO OOOP!!
HEHEEEH. YOUR EVER SO BELOVED PARENTS CISSIE AND GARY!!
UNDO THIS NOOSE AND I'LL LEAD YOU TO THE LOCATION OF THE SCROLL
WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME, I WONDER...?
OOPS.

.....
I'LL PROTECT YOU.
JUST AS THE BAT TOLD ME TO...
N...NO, UH...
FOR THAT END, I'LL KILL AS MANY PEOPLE AS IT TAKES
I'M THANKFUL FOR THE SENTIMENT, BUT..
IT'S MY LIFE, SO...

AGUA AAAA!!
AN ERASER TO ERASE HISTORY. CAN ZOFUU PROTECT THE POWERFUL SCROLL TO THE END?!
IT'S MY LIFE, SO I CAN MANAGE IT SOMEHOW.
PYOOON
SEE YA, HENRY.
PYOOON
BILLY BAT CHAPTER 72 / END NEXT CHAPTER GOES ON SALE IN ISSUE 6. GOINGON SALE !A!! LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

Muda Scantrad

BILLY BAT

ビリーバット

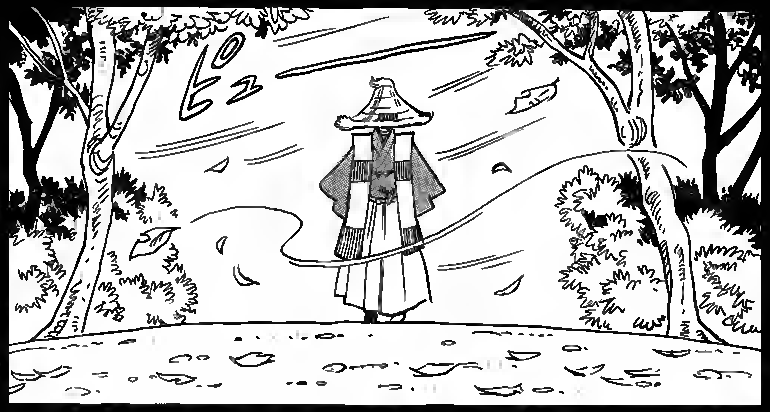
CHAPTER 73 - EVERYTHING CONTINUES

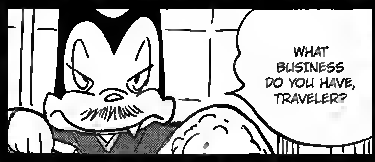
RAW PROVIDER: BILLYDOG
TRANSLATOR: KEWL0210
CLEANER: KIBA
TYPESETTER: KAGEHITSU
PROOFREADER: MOURISHIN
QUALITY CHECKER: QASZ

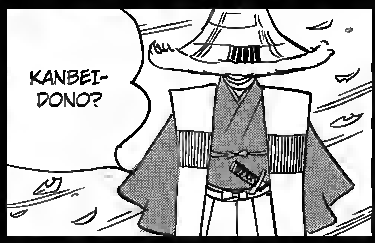
#MUDA-SCANLATIONS @ IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET

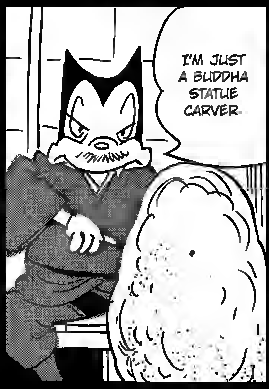
HTTP://WWW.MUDASCANTRAD.COM

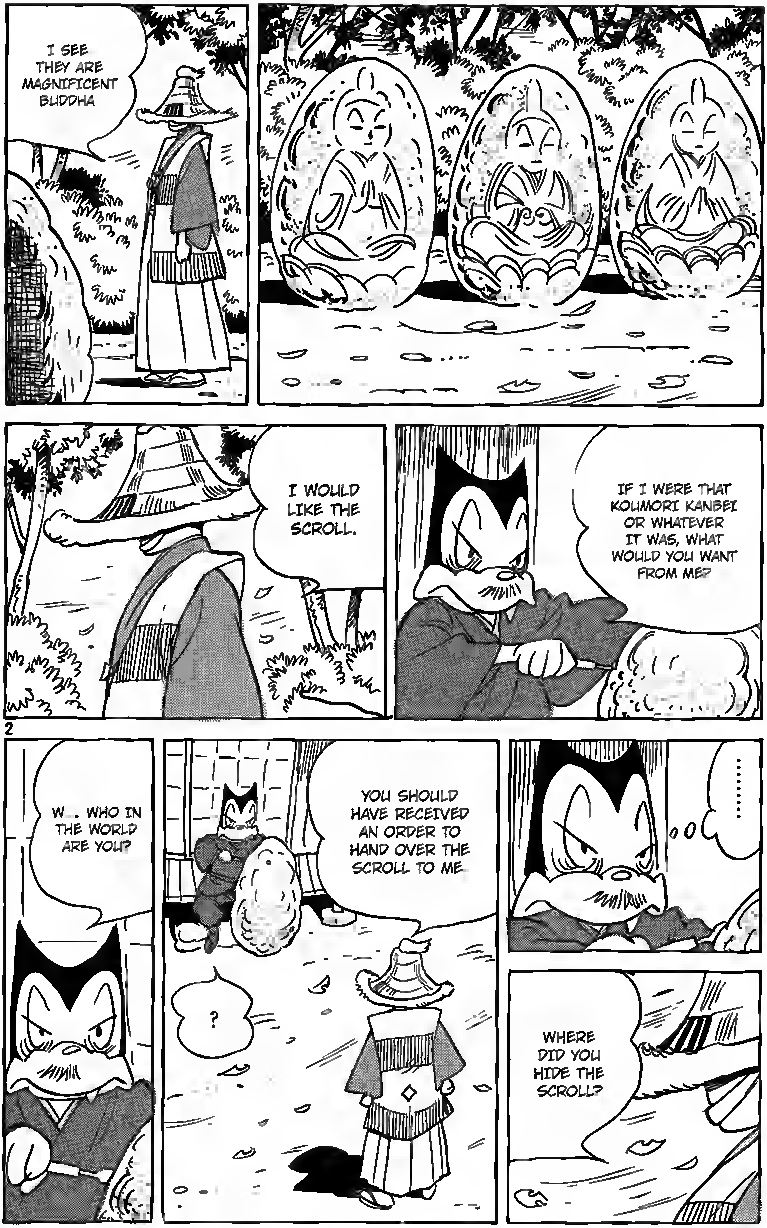
MAN, YOU MUST NOT ASK THAT NAME. BORN IN THE DARKNESS, DISAPPEAR INTO THE DARKNESS. THAT IS THE LAW OF THE NINJA! KANBEI, WILL YOU BE CUT...?!

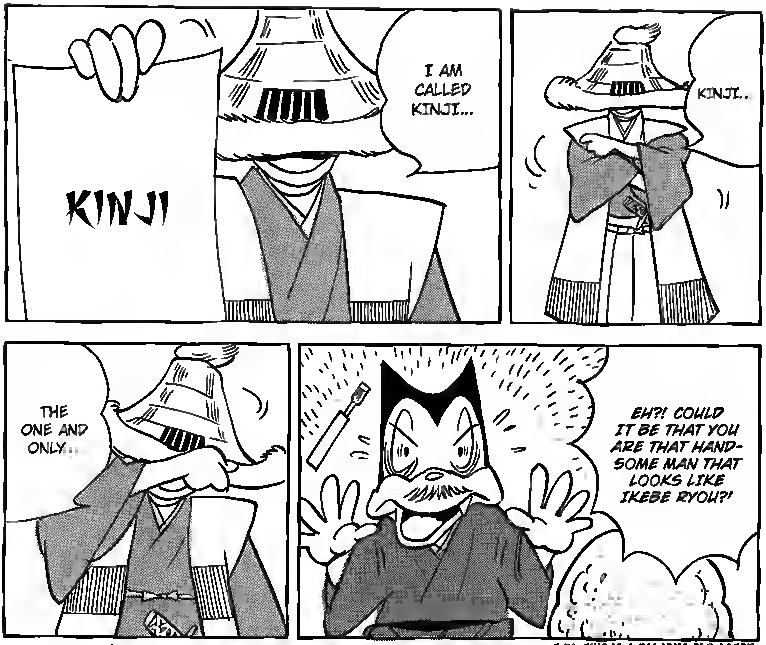




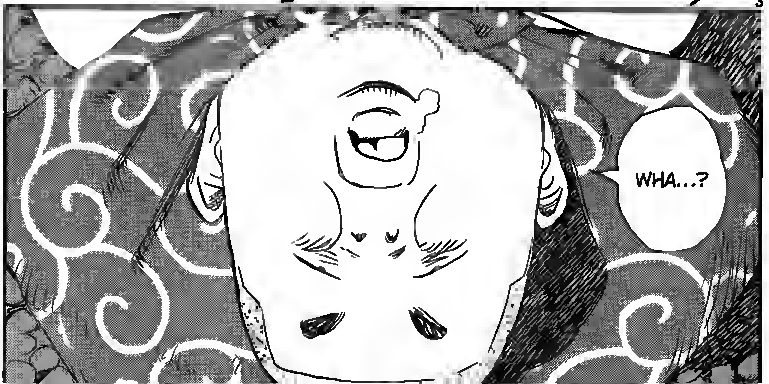





I SEE THEY ARE MAGNIFICENT BUDDHA
I WOULD LIKE THE SCROLL.
IF I WERE THAT KOUMORI KANBEI OR WHATEVER IT WAS, WHAT WOULD YOU WANT FROM ME?
2
W . WHO IN THE WORLD ARE YOU?
YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED AN ORDER TO HAND OVER THE SCROLL TO ME.
?
.....
WHERE DID YOU HIDE THE SCROLL?



T/N: THIS IS A FAMOUS OLD ACTOR.



I MUST'VE FALLEN ASLEEP...
HUA~ A DREAAAM ...?
BUT ANYHOW, THAT WAS A WEIRD DREAM...
SOMETHING TOTALLY WEIRD WAS GOING ON WITH ZOFUU-SENSEI'S MANGA...
BUT I'VE JUST GOT TO GET A LITTLE FARTHER AND I CAN HAND OVER SENSEI'S MANUSCRIPT TO THAT PERSON ...
I ALMOST GOT TO SEE THE FACE OF THE GUY WHO LOOKED LIKE IKEBE RYOU...
YOU'RE GONNA BE RUN OVER BY A TRAIN!
YOU'RE GONNA BE RUN OVER BY A TRAIN!
YOU'RE GONNA BE RUN OVER BY A TRAIN!
YOU'RE GONNA BE RUN OVER BY A TRAIN!
HMM?
WHO'S SAYING THAT?
4
WAA!!
YOU'RE GONNA BE RUN OVER BY A TRAIN!!
!!

大人気連載

BILLY BAT

ビリーバット

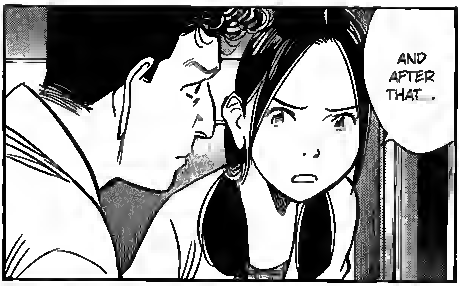
浦沢直樹 ストーリー共同制作 長崎尚志

CHAPTER 73: EVERYTHING CONTINUES

GASHU
GASHU
GASHU
BUT, THANKS.
I DUNNO WHO IT WAS THAT CALLED OUT TO ME,
HAA HAA!!
I... I ALMOST GOT KILLED!!
WHERE ARE YOU? PERSON ..?
WHO IS IT?!
GYAAA!!

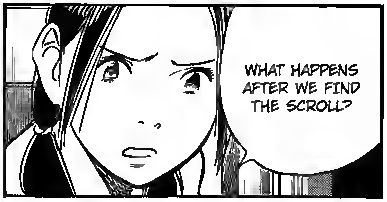
AH!!
GATAKON
GATAKON
HIII!!
I'D BE RUNNING, TOO, IF I HEARD THAT
SOMEONE'S RUNNING...
WHAT WAS THAT LOUD YELL JUST NOW?
B... BUT...

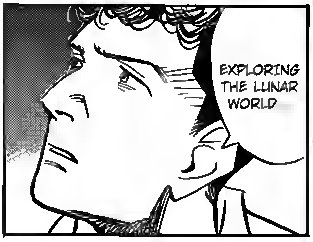
SOMEONE'S OUTSIDE...
whisper
WHAT IS IT?
IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEING PROTECTED BY THEM..
TATAN
TATAN
TOGETHER WITH A WHOLE BUNCH OF BATS...
EH?
WE'RE FINALLY GETTING CLOSE TO KOUMORI VILLAGE
IS SAFE...
I HOPE YOUR MASTER,
.....
TATAN
TATAN


AND AFTER THAT...

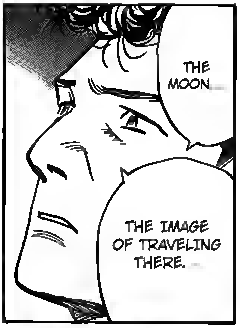
"GO TOGETHER AND SEARCH FOR KANBEI'S SCROLL"... HUH?

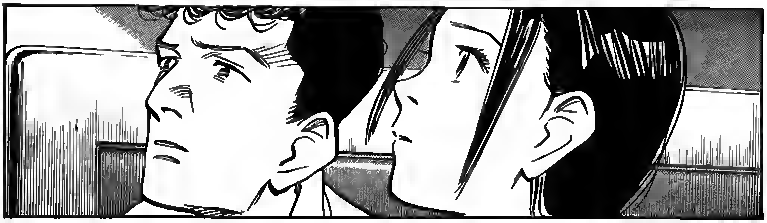
TO THE MOON...
EH?


WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE FIND THE SCROLL?

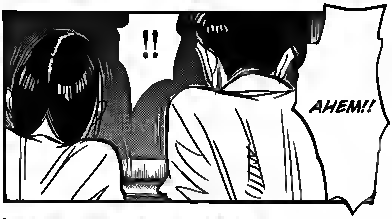

EXPLORING THE LUNAR WORLD

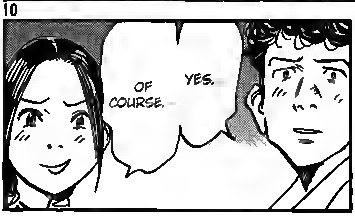
HUH?

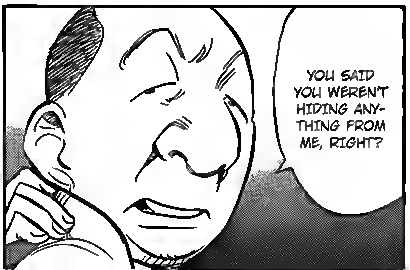

THE MOON...
THE IMAGE OF TRAVELING THERE...

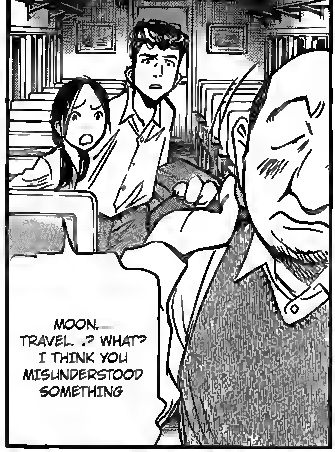


WE'RE ALMOST AT THE STATION


!!
AHEM!!

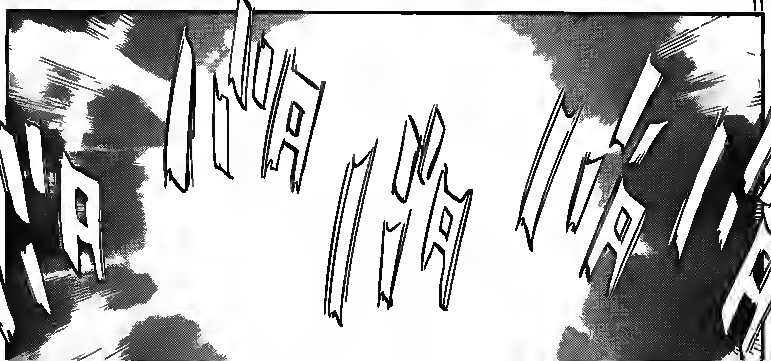

YES. OF COURSE.


YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T HIDING ANY-THING FROM ME, RIGHT?


MOON,... TRAVEL ..? WHAT? I THINK YOU MISUNDERSTOOD SOMETHING

JUST WHISPER QUIETLY ENOUGH SO I CAN'T HEAR YOU ABOUT TRAVELING ON YOUR HONEYMOON OR WHATEVER...
O...OKAY, WHATEVER

OH, COME ON!!
HEY, DAD!!



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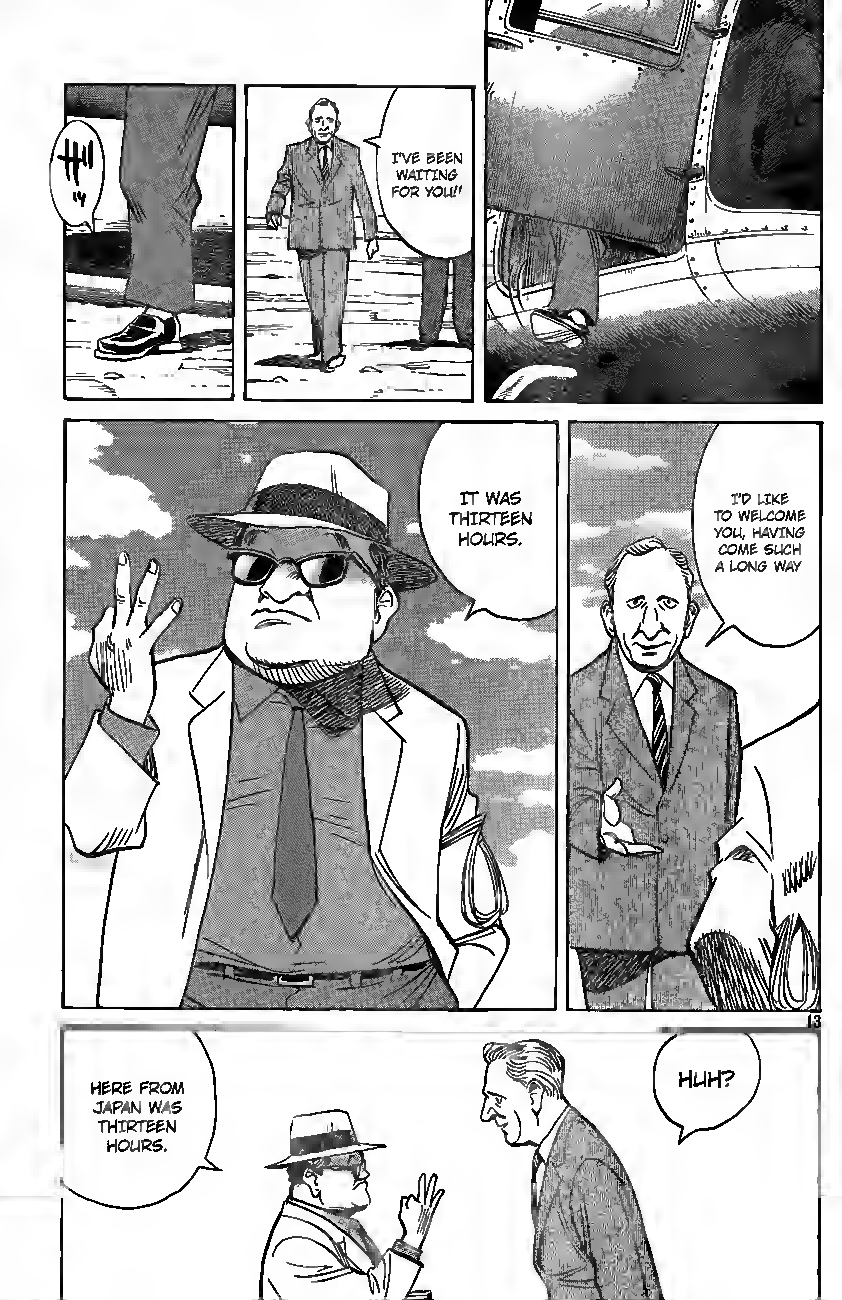
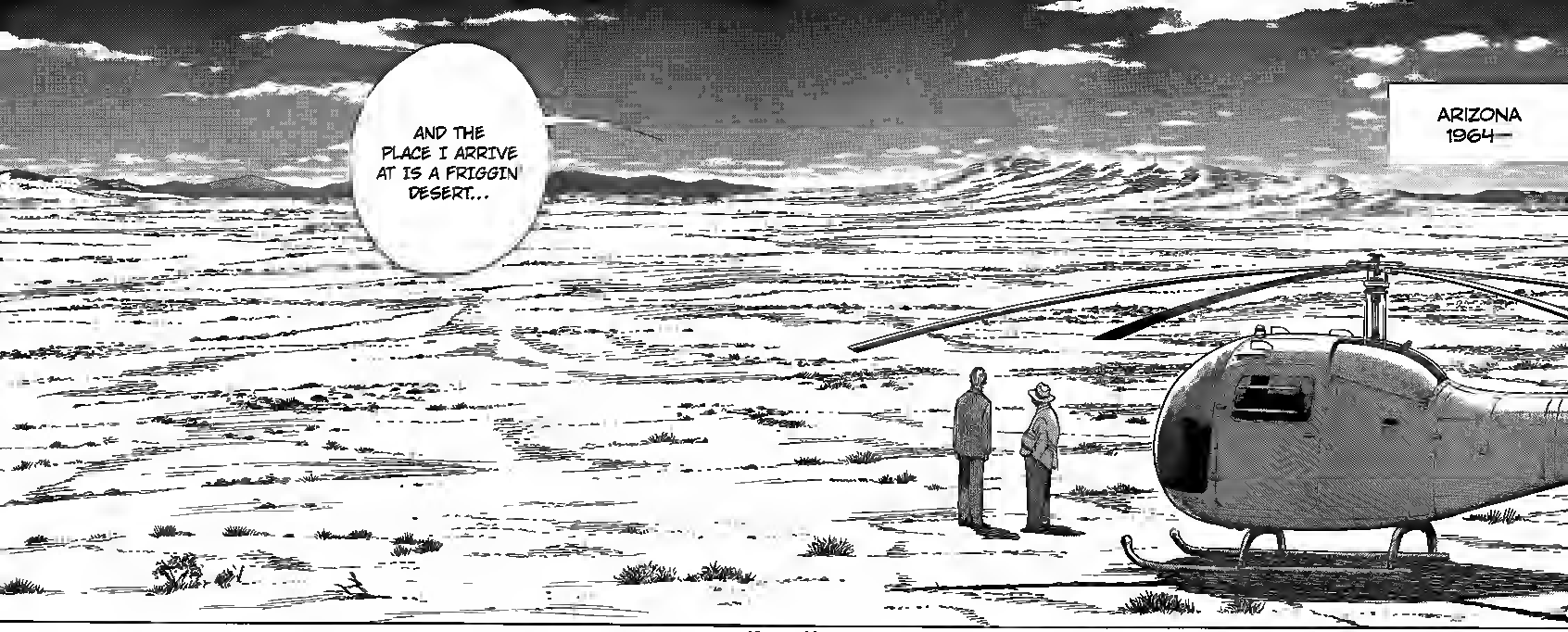
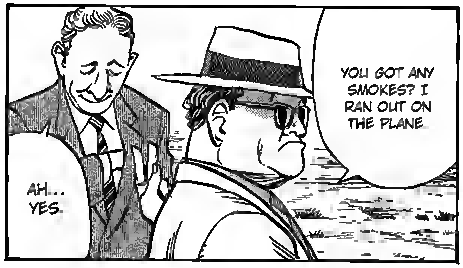
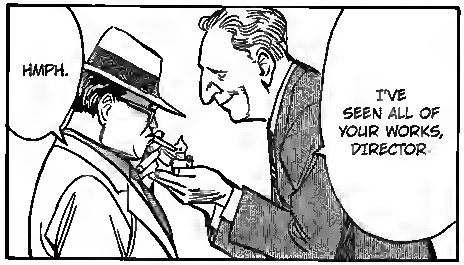

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!!
IT WAS THIRTEEN HOURS.
I'D LIKE TO WELCOME YOU, HAVING COME SUCH A LONG WAY
HUH?
HERE FROM JAPAN WAS THIRTEEN HOURS.


AND THE PLACE I ARRIVE AT IS A FRIGGIN' DESERT...
ARIZONA 1964—

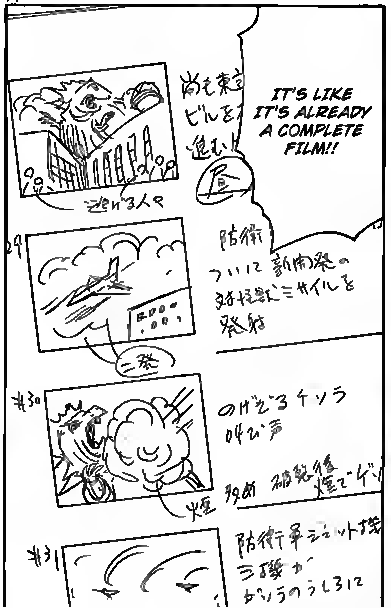

YOU GOT ANY SMOKES? I RAN OUT ON THE PLANE.
AH... YES.

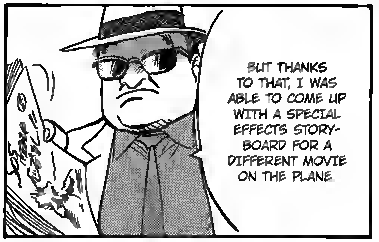

I'VE SEEN ALL OF YOUR WORKS, DIRECTOR.
HMPH.

15

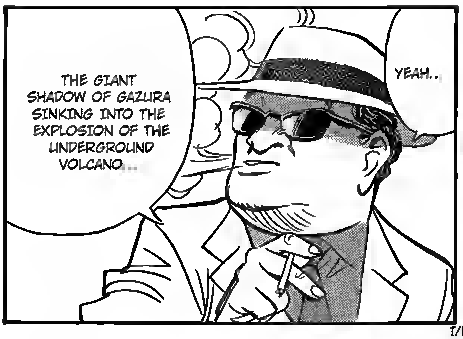
AH... SORRY FOR THE LATE INTRODUCTION, DIRECTOR AKECHI.
I AM ANDREW GASKIN OF CHUCK CULKIN ENTERPRISES.

14

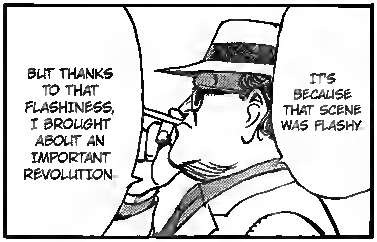

IT'S LIKE IT'S ALREADY A COMPLETE FILM!!

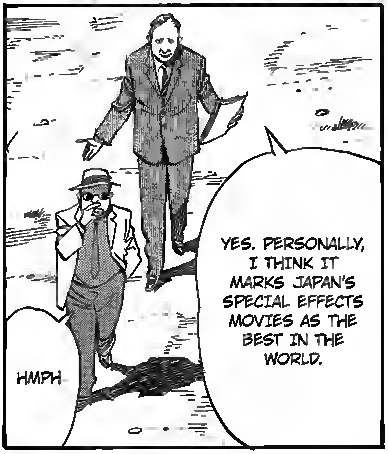

BUT THANKS TO THAT, I WAS ABLE TO COME UP WITH A SPECIAL EFFECTS STORY-BOARD FOR A DIFFERENT MOVIE ON THE PLANE.

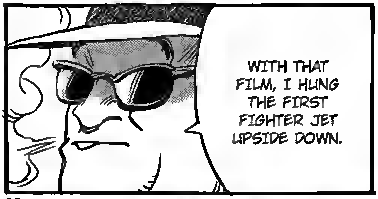
HOOOOOH. THIS IS ASTOUND-ING!!

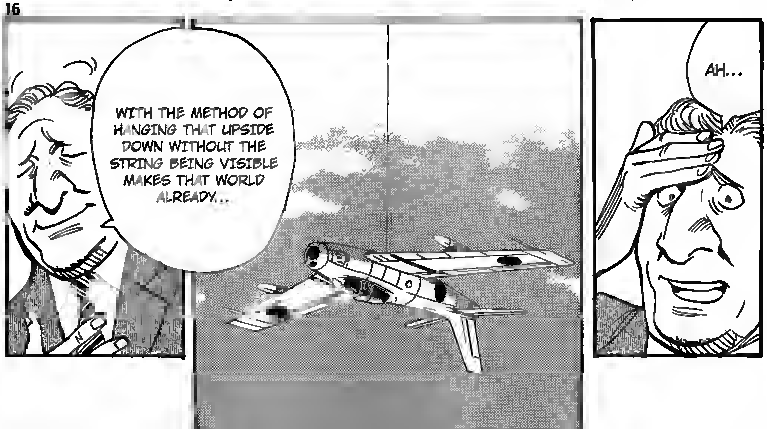


T/N: THAT'S A PARODY OF GIANT MONSTER GOJIRA (GODZILLA)

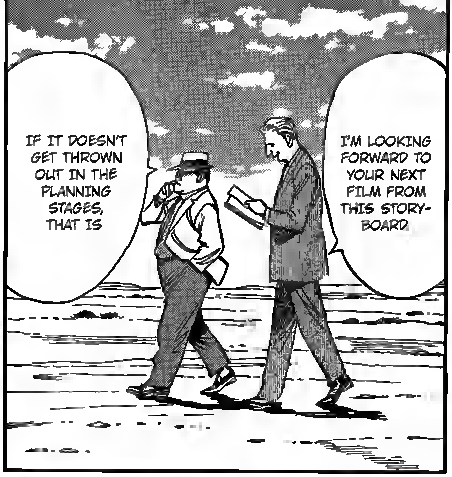




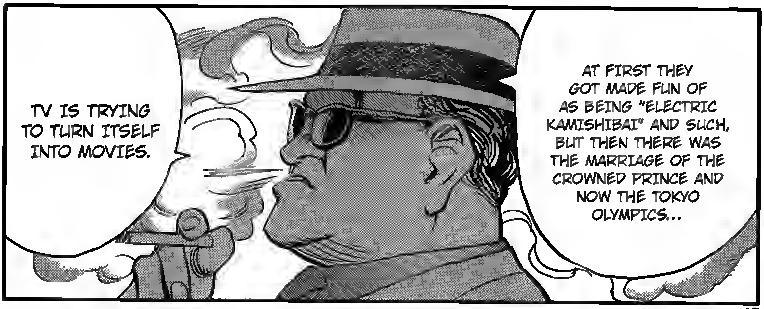




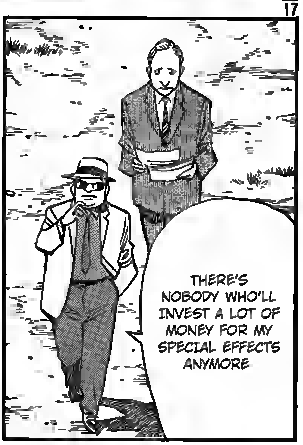
HAH... WHY WOULD THAT BE?

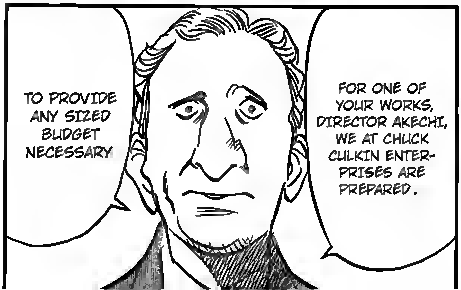

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR NEXT FILM FROM THIS STORY-BOARD.
IF IT DOESN'T GET THROWN OUT IN THE PLANNING STAGES, THAT IS

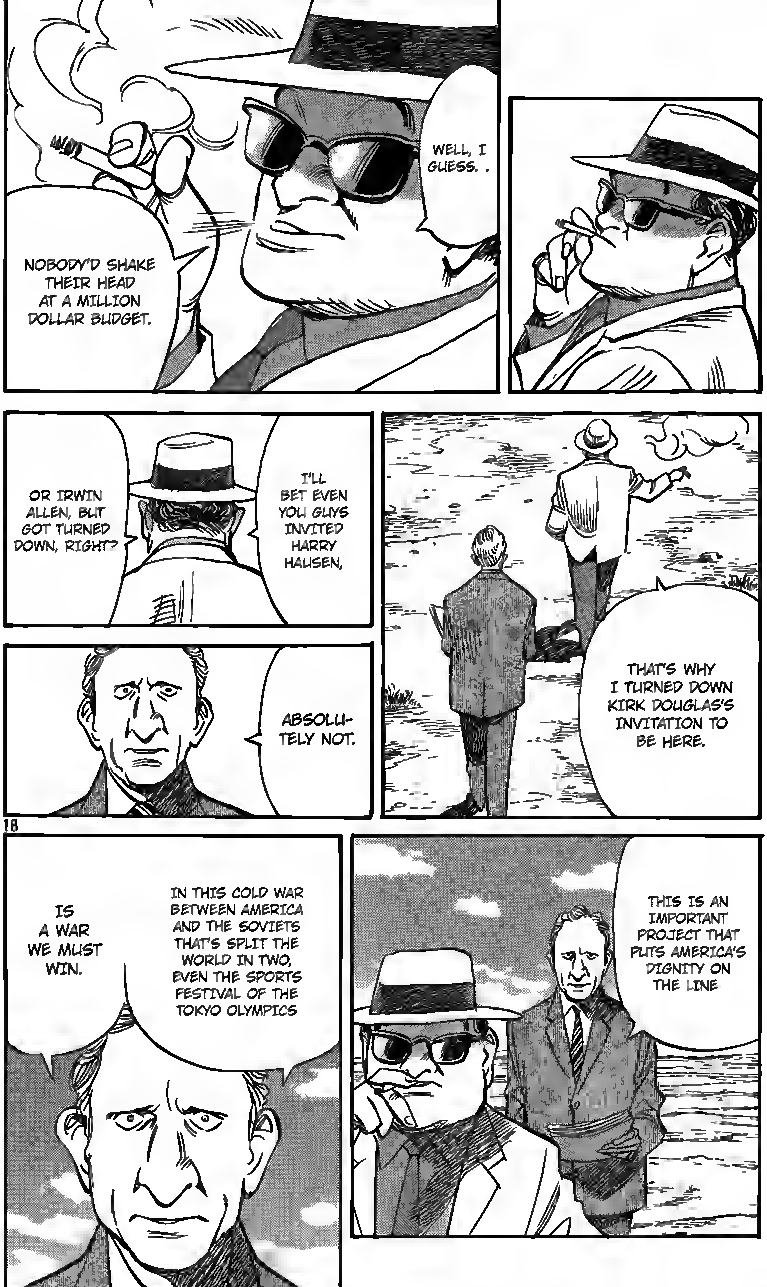
JAPANESE MOVIES ARE DECLINING


TV IS TRYING TO TURN ITSELF INTO MOVIES.
AT FIRST THEY GOT MADE FUN OF AS BEING "ELECTRIC KAMISHIBAI" AND SUCH, BUT THEN THERE WAS THE MARRIAGE OF THE CROWNED PRINCE AND NOW THE TOKYO OLYMPICS...

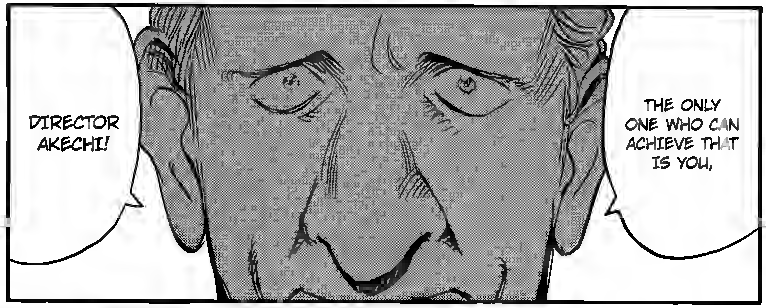
THAT'S NOT TRUE.

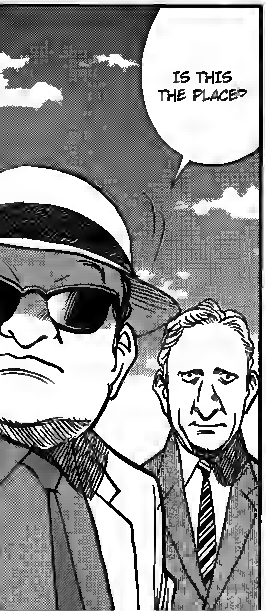

THERE'S NOBODY WHO'LL INVEST A LOT OF MONEY FOR MY SPECIAL EFFECTS ANYMORE


TO PROVIDE ANY SIZED BUDGET NECESSARY
FOR ONE OF YOUR WORKS, DIRECTOR AKECHI, WE AT CHUCK CULKIN ENTER-PRISES ARE PREPARED.

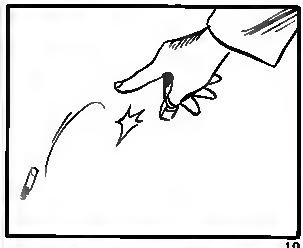

NOBODY'D SHAKE THEIR HEAD AT A MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET.
WELL, I GUESS. .
OR IRWIN ALLEN, BUT GOT TURNED DOWN, RIGHT?
I'LL BET EVEN YOU GUYS INVITED HARRY HAUSEN,
ABSOLU-TELY NOT.
THAT'S WHY I TURNED DOWN KIRK DOUGLAS'S INVITATION TO BE HERE.
IS A WAR WE MUST WIN.
IN THIS COLD WAR BETWEEN AMERICA AND THE SOVIETS THAT'S SPLIT THE WORLD IN TWO, EVEN THE SPORTS FESTIVAL OF THE TOKYO OLYMPICS
THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PROJECT THAT PUTS AMERICA'S DIGNITY ON THE LINE

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THIS PROJECT BE A SUCCESS.
IT'S A WAR!

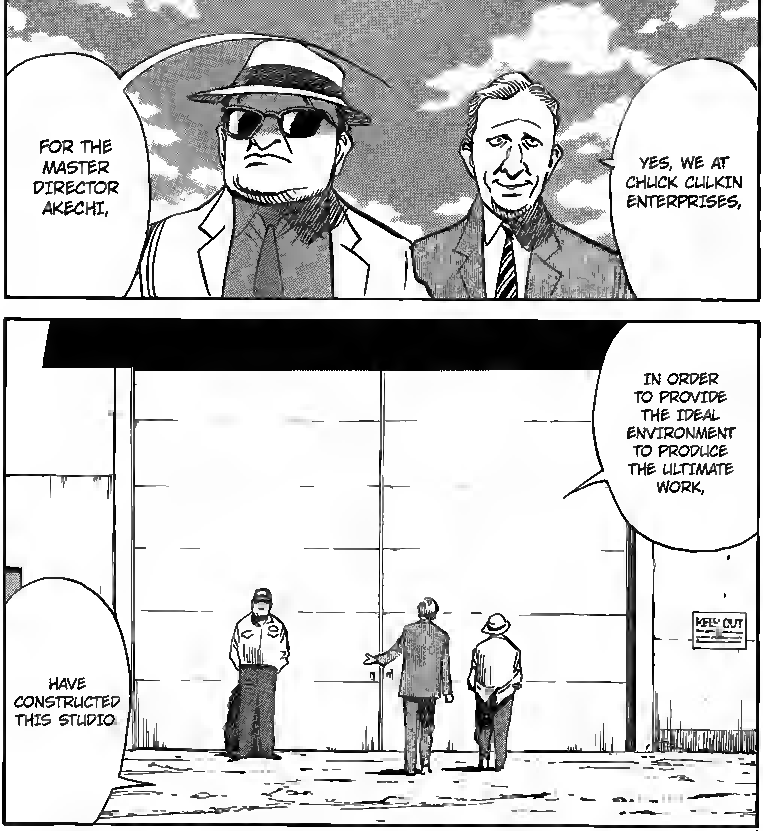

THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN ACHIEVE THAT IS YOU,
DIRECTOR AKECHI!

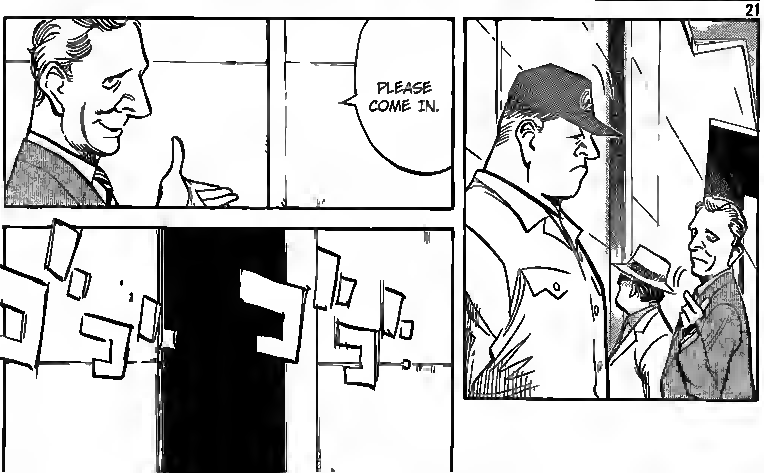

IS THIS THE PLACE?

ALL I WANT IS TO SHOW THE WORLD THE BEST SPECIAL EFFECTS TECHNIQUES JAPAN HAS TO OFFER



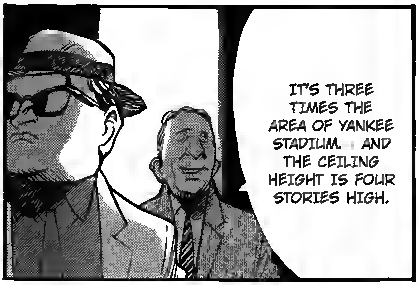
JYARI
I DUNNO WHAT'LL HAPPEN WITH AMERICA AND THE SOVIET UNION

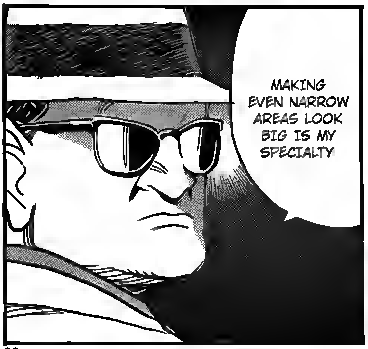

FOR THE MASTER DIRECTOR AKECHI,
YES, WE AT CHUCK CULKIN ENTERPRISES,
IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE IDEAL ENVIRONMENT TO PRODUCE THE ULTIMATE WORK,
HAVE CONSTRUCTED THIS STUDIO.
KEEP OUT


PLEASE COME IN.
ゴゴゴゴゴ

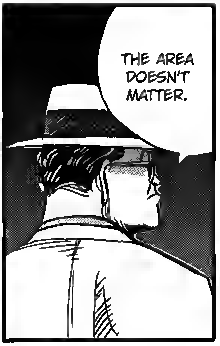
ZA

ゴゴゴ…!


IT'S THREE TIMES THE AREA OF YANKEE STADIUM. AND THE CEILING HEIGHT IS FOUR STORIES HIGH.


MAKING EVEN NARROW AREAS LOOK BIG IS MY SPECIALTY

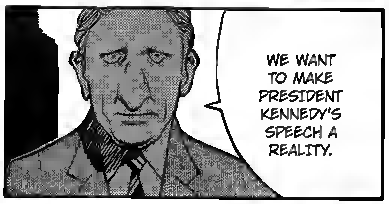
HUH...?


THE AREA DOESN'T MATTER.

AND?

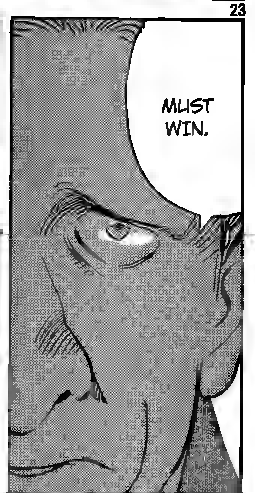
WHAT AM I FILMING HERE?

WE, AMERICA,
IN OUR WAR WITH THE SOVIET UNION,


WE WANT TO MAKE PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S SPEECH A REALITY.

KENNEDY ..?

AND THAT VICTORY RIDES IN YOUR HANDS DIRECTOR AKECHI


MUST WIN.

PLEASE MAKE THIS PLACE INTO THE WORLD OF THE MOON.
1961, RANGER #2 FAILED TO LAUNCH. IN '64, #6 CRASHED INTO THE MOON'S SURFACE. MANKIND STILL DID NOT HAVE THE MEANS TO LAND ON THE MOON.
"BILLY BAT" CHAPTER 73 / END
THE NEXT CHAPTER APPEARS IN ISSUE 8 GOING ON SALE 1/19! LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

Muda Scantrad

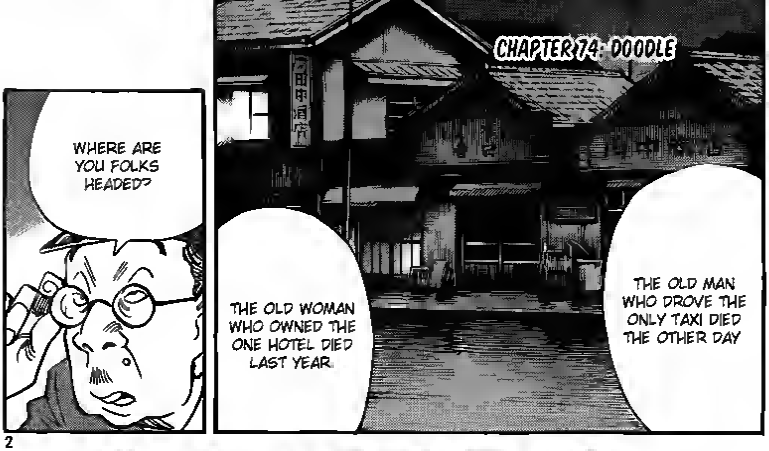
ビリーバット
BILLY BAT

CHAPTER 74 - DOODLE

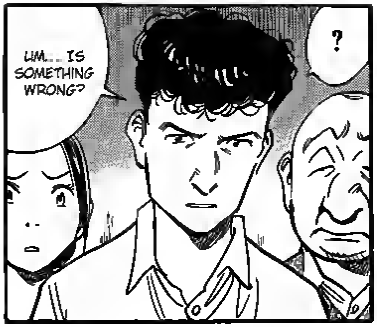
RAW PROVIDER: BILLYDOG
TRANSLATOR: KEWL0210
CLEANER: KIBA
TYPESETTER: ALY_UNITED
PROOFREADER: MOURISHIN
QUALITY CHECKER: QASZ

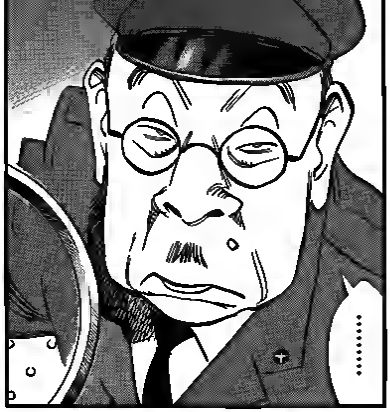
#MUDA-SCANLATIONS @ IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET
HTTP://WWW.MUDASCANTRAD.COM

奥紀州駅
SIGH. INNER KII PROVINCE STATION
EH? BUS?
奥紀州駅
HAVING CROSSED THE PACIFIC OCEAN, THIS GROUP LANDS AT AN OLD TRAIN STATION IN A MOUNTAIN VILLAGE. PAST HERE IS THE SOLITARY ISLAND OF THE LANDMASS.
THEN, A TAXI?
AH— SORRY, ALL GONE.
THE BUS DOESN'T LEAVE UNTIL TOMORROW MORNING

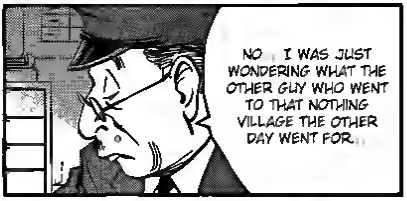

CHAPTER 74: DOODLE
WHERE ARE YOU FOLKS HEADED?
THE OLD WOMAN WHO OWNED THE ONE HOTEL DIED LAST YEAR.
THE OLD MAN WHO DROVE THE ONLY TAXI DIED THE OTHER DAY

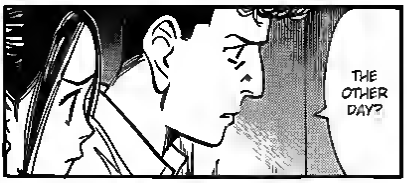
NAOKI URASAWA + TAKASHI NAGASAKI PRESENT
KOUMORI VILLAGE.
大人気隔週連載
BILLY BAT
ビリーバット
浦沢直樹
ストーリー共同制作
長崎尚志


UM... IS SOMETHING WRONG?
?

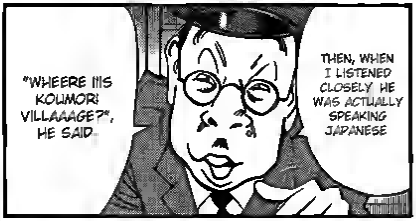

.....

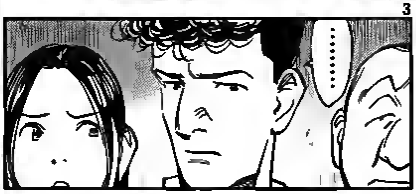
HE SUDDENLY STARTED TALKING TO ME, AND I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
A FOREIGNER. A REALLY TALL ONE.


NO... I WAS JUST WONDERING WHAT THE OTHER GUY WHO WENT TO THAT NOTHING VILLAGE THE OTHER DAY WENT FOR...


THE OTHER DAY?

AH, RIGHT. IF YOU'RE GOING TO WAIT FOR THE BUS, GO OVER THERE.


"WHEERE !!!S KOUMORI VILLAAAGE?", HE SAID.
THEN, WHEN I LISTENED CLOSELY HE WAS ACTUALLY SPEAKING JAPANESE


.....

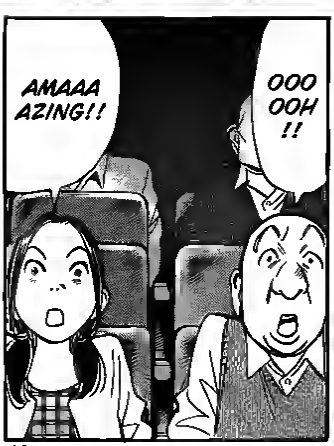
SIGN: INTERNATIONAL THEATER

4

SIGN: GREAT MONSTER GAZURA

KISHAAAAA!!

KISHAAAAA!!


OOO OOH !!
AMAAA AZING!!

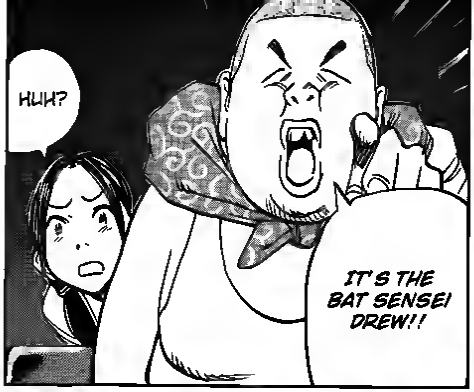
AH...
DON'T YOU THINK, KEVIN...?
I KNEW IT, JAPAN'S SPECIAL EFFECTS ARE REALLY INTENSE.
COMPARED TO THOSE LISTLESS AMERICAN MOVIES, THEY HAVE A DIFFERENT KIND OF SPIRIT...
SIGH. CONFESSION STAND
MAYBE HE WENT TO THE BATH-ROOM...
UWAAAH! IT BLEW FIRE AGAIN!!
UM.
COULD I BORROW A PHONE?
THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE DOING THINGS LIKE THIS...

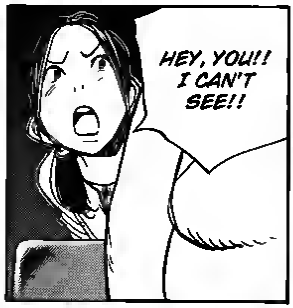
KOUMORUI VILLAGE .
IT'S TO KOUMORI VILLAGE...
AH, I'LL PAY FOR IT, OF COURSE.
WHERE YOU CALLIN'?
HUH?
NOBODY'LL PICK UP.
PERHAPS THE RESIDENTIAL POLICE STATION OR SOMEWHERE...
YES . THERE WOULDN'T BE ANYONE WORKING AT THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT, SO. .
7
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN...?
MAYBE THE VILLAGE AS A WHOLE DECIDED TO SHIRK ALL THEIR PAYMENTS.
I DUNNO.
EVEN WHEN HE CALLED THE KOUMORI VILLAGE OFFICES AND POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR ALCOHOL EXPENSES, NOBODY WOULD PICK UP
THE SAKE DEALER IN FRONT OF THE STATION TOLD ME

SOMETHING HAPPENING...
IN KOUMORI VILLAGE ..

KISHAAAAA

HANAE-SAN! HANAE-SAAAAN!!
HIIIIII!!
HARUHIKO-SAN!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, HANAE-SAN?!! QUICKLY, WE MUST ESCAPE BEFORE GAZURA GETS HERE!
HEW
IT'S OKAY I'VE FOUND A WAY TO DEFEAT GAZURA!!
A——!!
!?
HANAE-SAN, YOUR FATHER'S RESEARCH WAS NOT IN VAIN!!

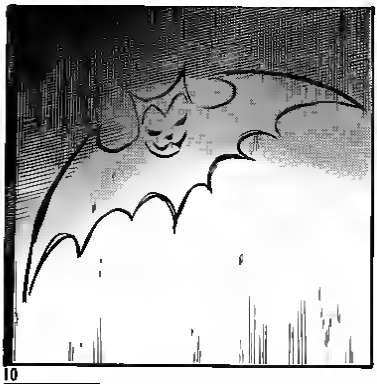


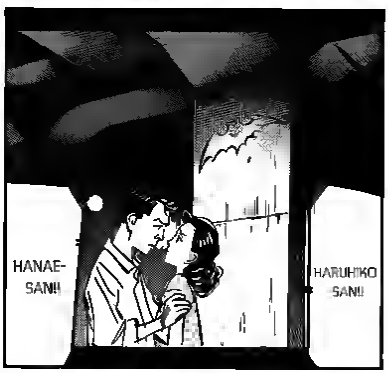


登場人物

山下くん

漫画家・蜷川雛星のファンクラブ会長。雛星から、彼が描いた漫画を全持（キャンジ）という男に渡すよう託された。





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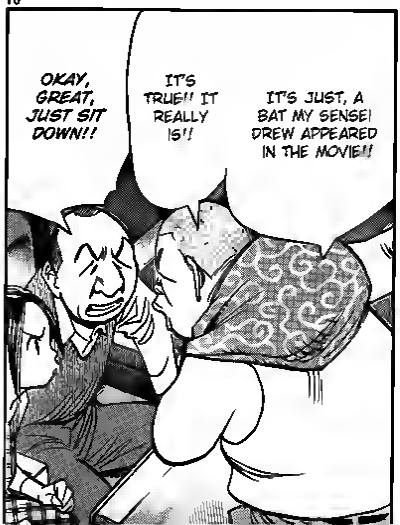
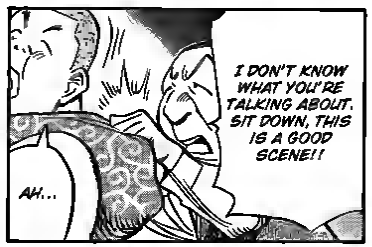
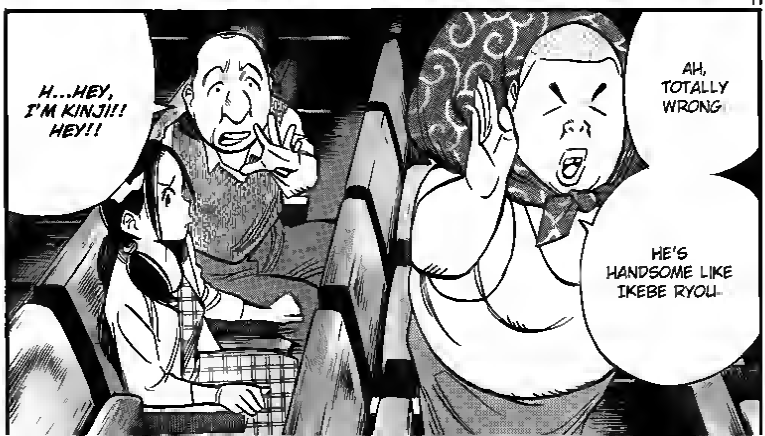




I'M REALLY SORRY
I REALLY DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE WATCHING A MOVIE. I'M SUPPOSED TO BE LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY AND I CAME IN HERE AND I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF.
OKAY, JUST GET OUT OF THE WAY
LOOKING FOR SOMEONE?
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE NAMED KINJI
IT'S WRITTEN WITH THE KANJI FOR "RICH MAN". HE'S CALLED KINJI
.....
THAT'S ME.


AH, TOTALLY WRONG.
HE'S HANDSOME LIKE IKEBE RYOU.
H...HEY, I'M KINJI!! HEY!!

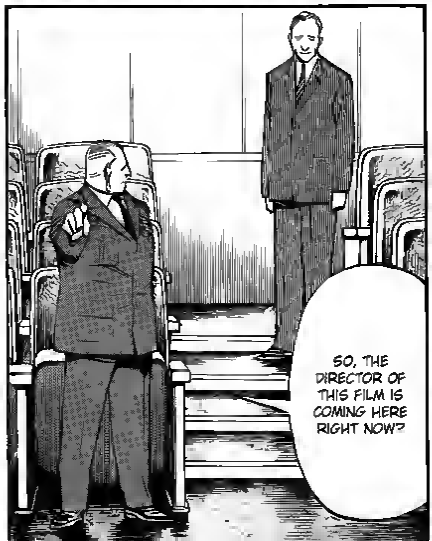
HEY!!

KISHAAA!!

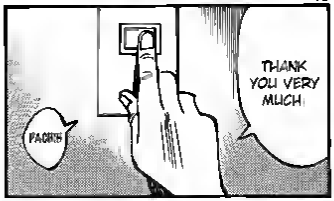
I SEE.

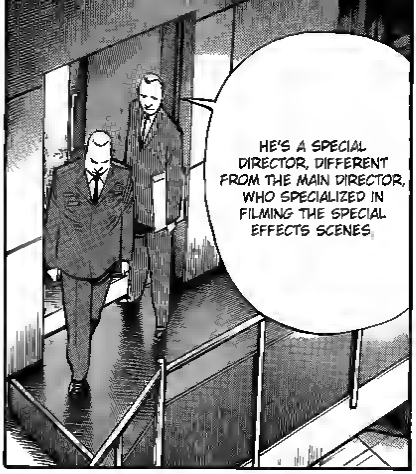
THIS IS MAGNIFICENT.
ゴゴゴゴゴ

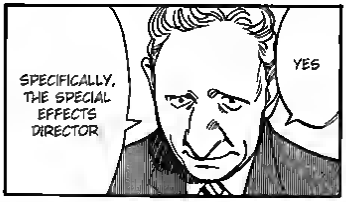
I THINK I UNDERSTAND WHY MY COUNTRY
HAD SUCH A PROBLEM HANDLING SUCH A SMALL COUNTRY!


SO, THE DIRECTOR OF THIS FILM IS COMING HERE RIGHT NOW?

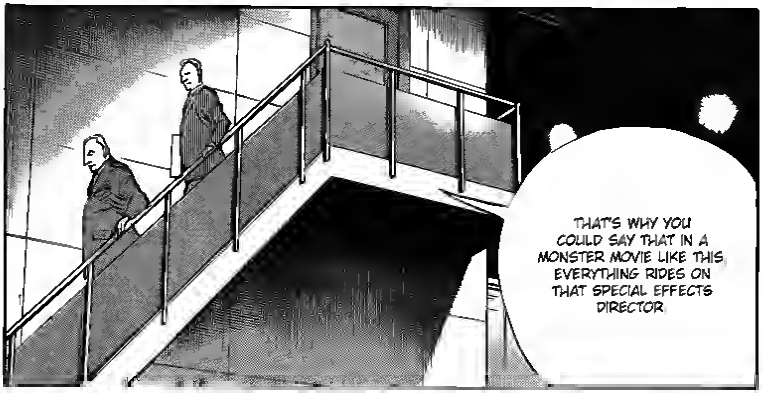
YOU'VE REALLY SHOWN ME SOMETHING GOOD


THANK YOU VERY MUCH
FACH!!


HE'S A SPECIAL DIRECTOR, DIFFERENT FROM THE MAIN DIRECTOR, WHO SPECIALIZED IN FILMING THE SPECIAL EFFECTS SCENES


YES
SPECIFICALLY, THE SPECIAL EFFECTS DIRECTOR

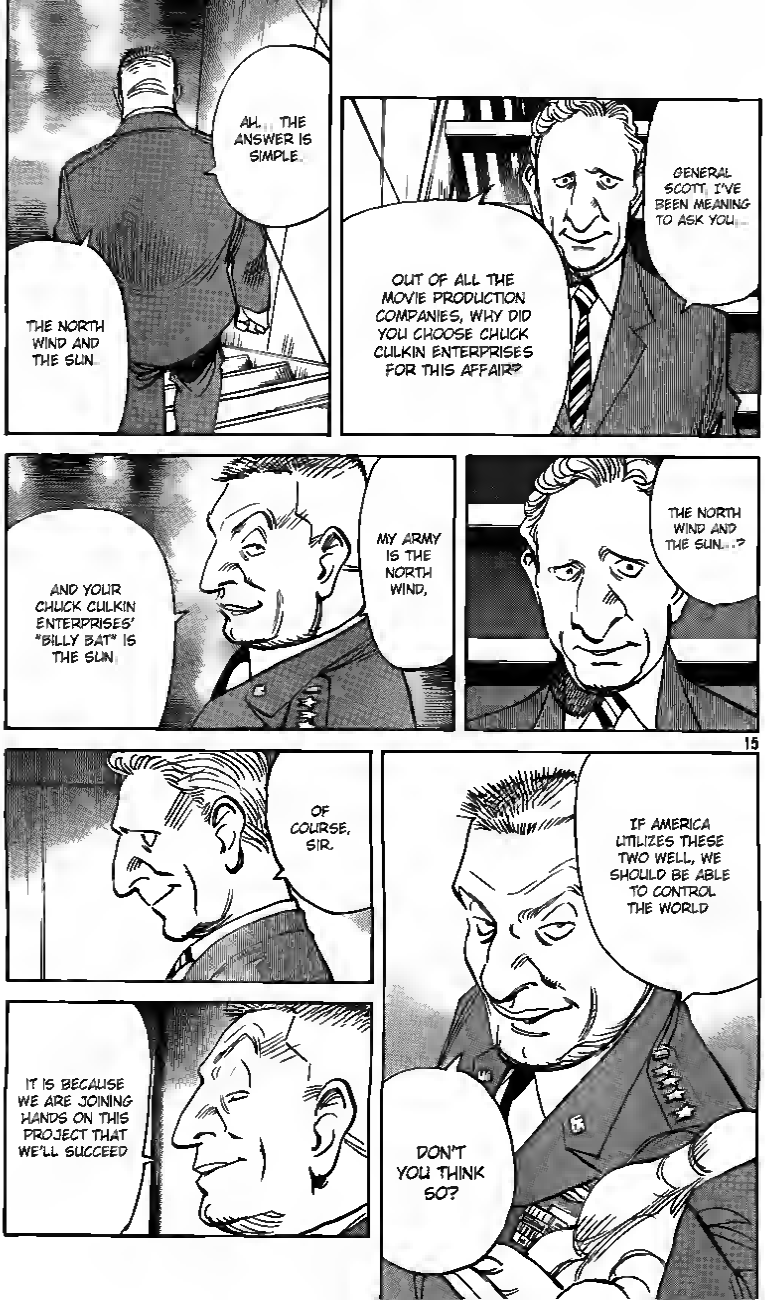
SPECIAL EFFECTS?


THAT'S WHY YOU COULD SAY THAT IN A MONSTER MOVIE LIKE THIS EVERYTHING RIDES ON THAT SPECIAL EFFECTS DIRECTOR

IT'S OUR JOB, SIR

IT REALLY IS IMPRESSIVE YOU FOUND SUCH A DIRECTOR IN THE FAR-EAST COUNTRY OF JAPAN

NICE LINE. I'D LIKE TO MAKE IT MY ARMY'S SLOGAN

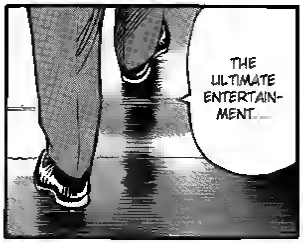

AH... THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE...
THE NORTH WIND AND THE SUN...
GENERAL SCOTT, I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU...
OUT OF ALL THE MOVIE PRODUCTION COMPANIES, WHY DID YOU CHOOSE CHUCK CULKIN ENTERPRISES FOR THIS AFFAIR?
MY ARMY IS THE NORTH WIND,
AND YOUR CHUCK CULKIN ENTERPRISES' "BILLY BAT" IS THE SUN.
THE NORTH WIND AND THE SUN...?
15
OF COURSE, SIR.
IF AMERICA UTILIZES THESE TWO WELL, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTROL THE WORLD
IT IS BECAUSE WE ARE JOINING HANDS ON THIS PROJECT THAT WE'LL SUCCEED
DON'T YOU THINK SO?

OTHERWISE WE CAN'T SEIZE THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE
THE MOVIE OF NATIONAL POLICY, IN A WAY, HAS TO BE THE PINNACLE OF ENTERTAINMENT

SHOULD JOIN FORCES.
THAT'S WHY MISSILES AND BILLY BAT,

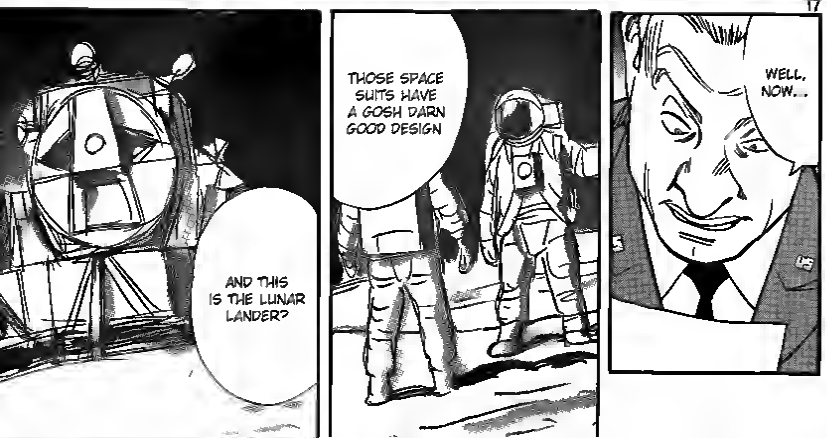
CONTROLS THE 21ST CENTURY.

AND THE ONE WHO DOES MAKE IT,
THE QUESTION IS WHETHER AMERICA OR THE SOVIETS WILL GET THERE FIRST..


THE ULTIMATE ENTERTAIN-MENT.

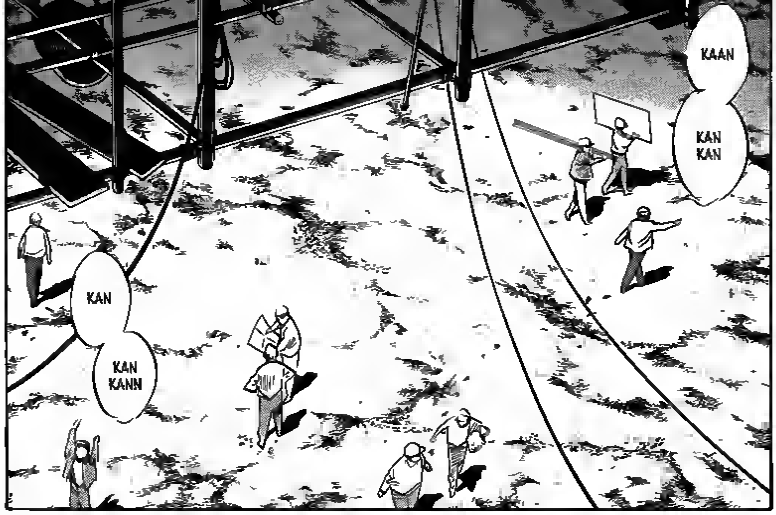
TRAVEL TO THE WORLD OF THE MOON

THE SPECIAL EFFECTS DIRECTOR FOR "GREAT MONSTER GAZURA" DREW THIS STORY-BOARD PANEL BEFORE.
IT'S GASKIN, ISN'T IT? WHAT'S THAT?
.....


AND THIS IS THE LUNAR LANDER?
THOSE SPACE SUITS HAVE A GOSH DARN GOOD DESIGN
WELL, NOW...

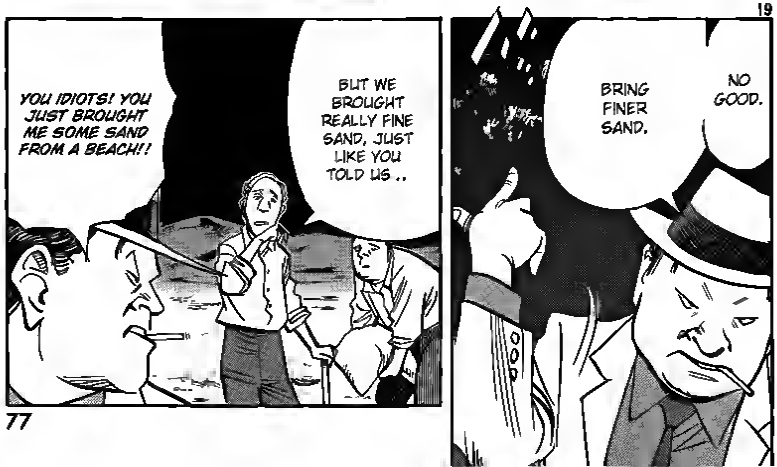
I SEE. SO THIS IS HOW IT'S COMING ALONG
OKAY. SEND THIS DESIGN TO NASA.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
DIRECTOR AKECHI AND OUR STAFF SHOULD BE JUST STARTING PRODUCTION IN THAT STUDIO.
AKECHI . .

I'M LOOKIN FORWARD TO IT.

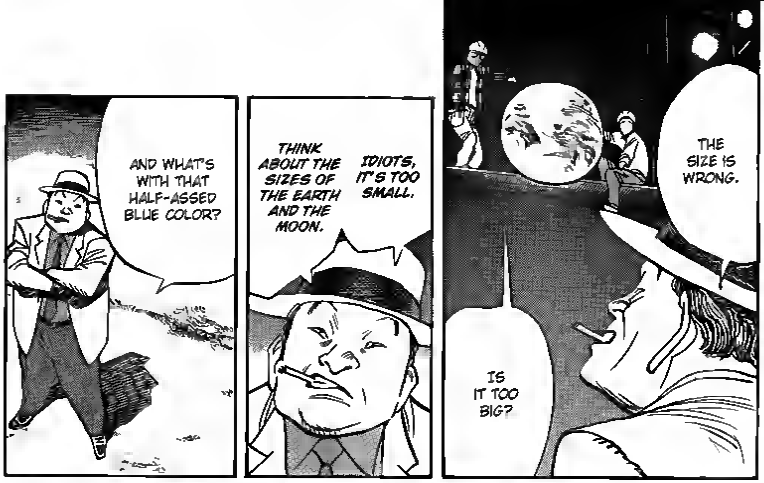

KAAN
KAN KAN
KAN
KAN KANN

SAKA SAKA.

19


YOU IDIOTS! YOU JUST BROUGHT ME SOME SAND FROM A BEACH!!
BUT WE BROUGHT REALLY FINE SAND, JUST LIKE YOU TOLD US ..
NO GOOD.
BRING FINER SAND.

THE KIND THAT SPLATTERS FROM JUST WALKING ON IT A LITTLE WOULD MAKE A BETTER SPECIAL EFFECT
O, OKAY.
IS THE SAND ON THE MOON THAT FINE?
I DUNNO
MAYBE
KON KON KON
KAN KAN KAN
HEY!! WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO BE?!
THE EARTH.
OF COURSE THE REAL ONE WILL BE HUNG A LOT BETTER.


THE SIZE IS WRONG.
IS IT TOO BIG?
IDIOTS, IT'S TOO SMALL.
THINK ABOUT THE SIZES OF THE EARTH AND THE MOON.
AND WHAT'S WITH THAT HALF-ASSED BLUE COLOR?

IS.. IS THE COLOR WRONG, TOO?
THE EARTH'S A BALL OF WATER!
EVEN GAGARIN SAID SO, DIDN'T HE? "THE EARTH WAS BLUE".

B... BUT, ALL WE HAVE IS ONE BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO..
YEAH, I HAVE IT, TOO.
BUT, WITH THIS PHOTO, YOU CAN IMAGINE IT, CAN'T YA?!

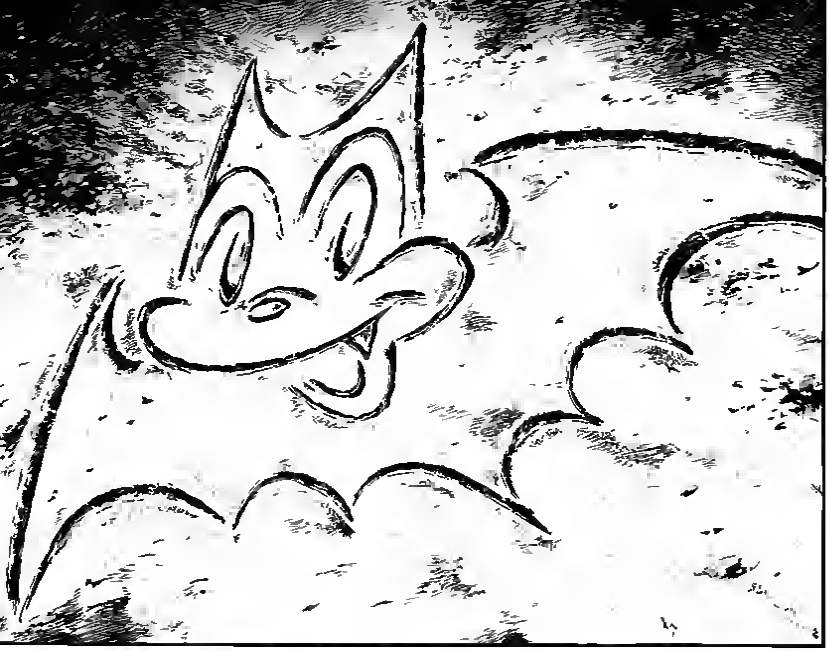
GET RIDDA THAT PALE BLUE!!
Y... YES, SIR.

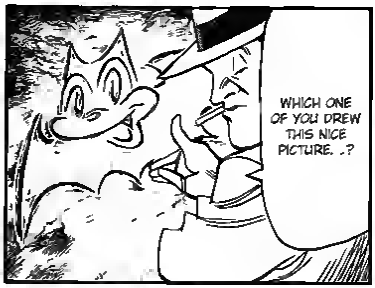
IT'S PROBABLY ASTONISHINGLY BLUE.

I'M SUR-ROUNDED BY IDIOTS!!
GEEZ !!

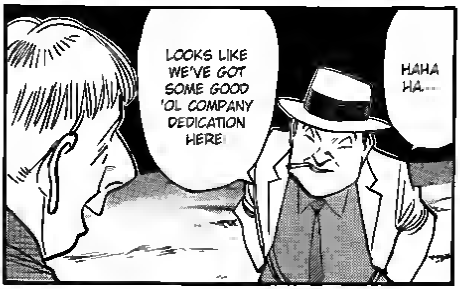
AT THIS RATE, I DON'T HAVE A CLUE WHEN THIS'LL BECOME THE WORLD OF THE MOON...

IF IT WERE MY "AKECHI TEAM" IN JAPAN, WE'D BE HALF DONE BY NOW




WHICH ONE OF YOU DREW THIS NICE PICTURE...?

YES?
HEY.


LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT SOME GOOD 'OL COMPANY DEDICATION HERE!
HAHA HA...

I WAS ON THE ANIMATION TEAM IN HOLLYWOOD, SO I JUST SORT OF...
AH... YES SIR, ME

THIS IS THE MOON. GOT IT ?!!
DON'T YOU EVER DRAW SOMETHING LIKE THIS!!
YOUR JOB IS TO MAKE THIS PLACE THE SPITTING IMAGE OF THE WORLD OF THE MOON!!
THE IMAGINATION OF THE SPECIAL EFFECT DIRECTOR WON'T ALLOW SOMETHING TO BE THERE THAT SHOULDN'T BE THERE. FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE SURFACE OF THE MOON THAT NO ONE'S EVER SEEN, WHAT WILL AKEEM ACHIEVE...?!
THERE AIN'T ANY CRAP LIKE THIS ON THE MOON!!
"BILLY BAT" CHAPTER 74 / END
NEXT CHAPTER IS IN ISSUE 10 GOING ON SALE 2/21
LOOK FORWARD TO IT!

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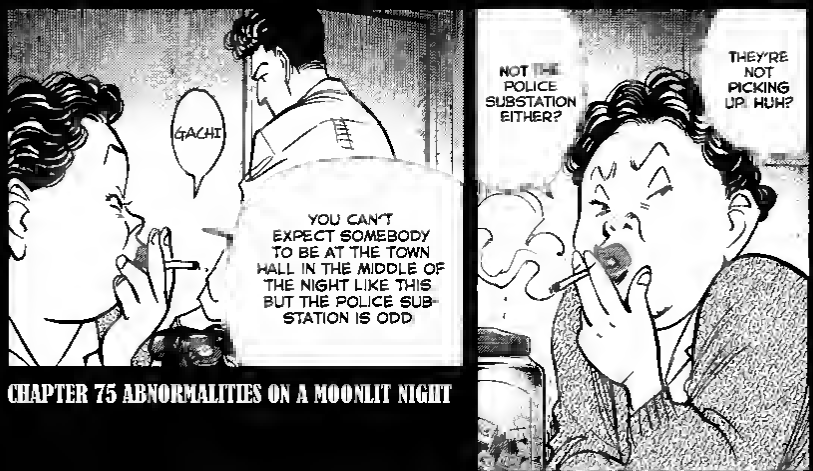
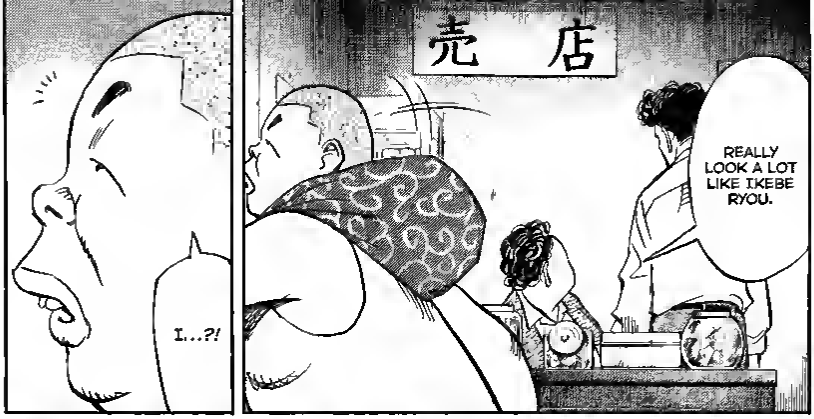
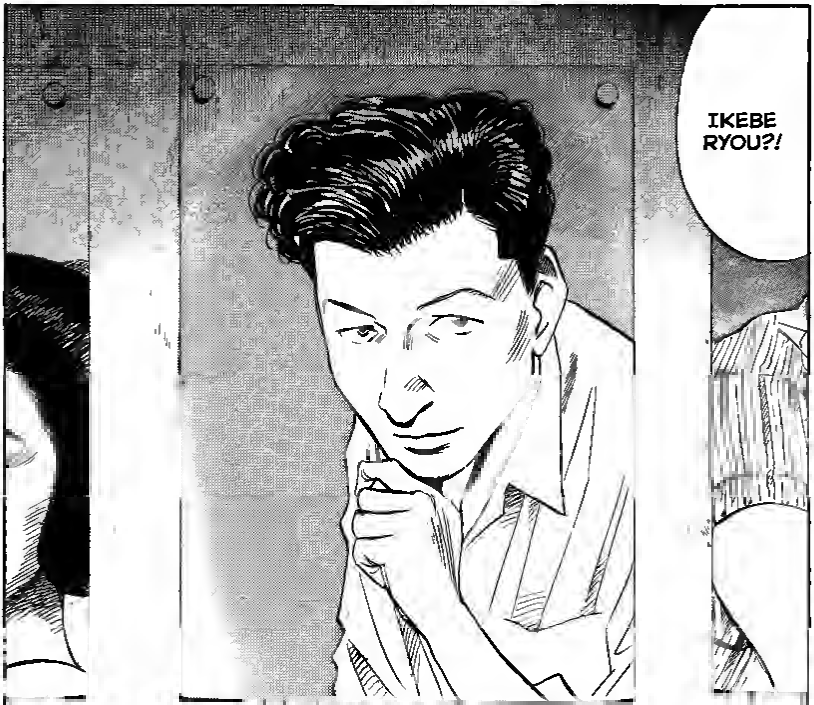

GACHI
YOU CAN'T EXPECT SOMEBODY TO BE AT THE TOWN HALL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT LIKE THIS BUT THE POLICE SUB-STATION IS ODD
NOT THE POLICE SUBSTATION EITHER?
THEY'RE NOT PICKING UP. HUH?

CHAPTER 75 ABNORMALITIES ON A MOONLIT NIGHT

GEHO GEHOH
HONESTLY, IT'S LIKE KOUMORI VILLAGE AS A WHOLE DECIDED TO SHIRK THEIR PAYMENTS.
SIGN SHOP
売 店
HEY, YOU KNOW, YOU...

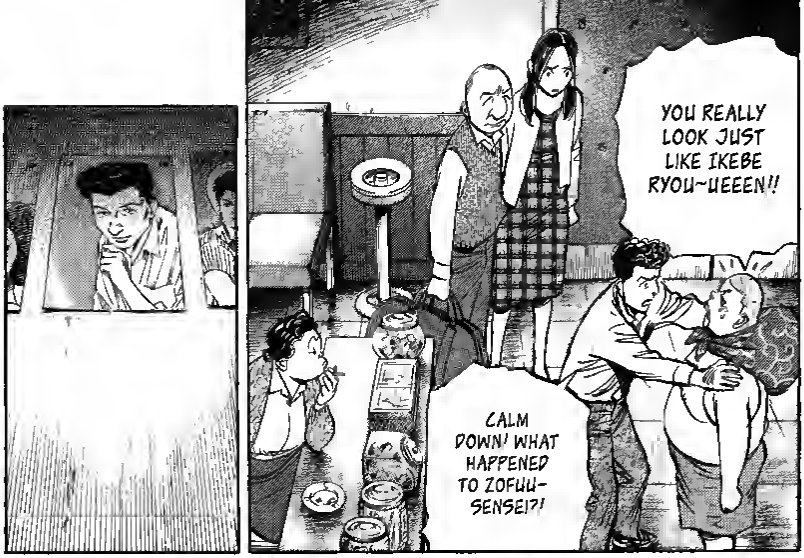




CHAPTER 75 ABNORMALITIES ON A MOONLIT NIGHT

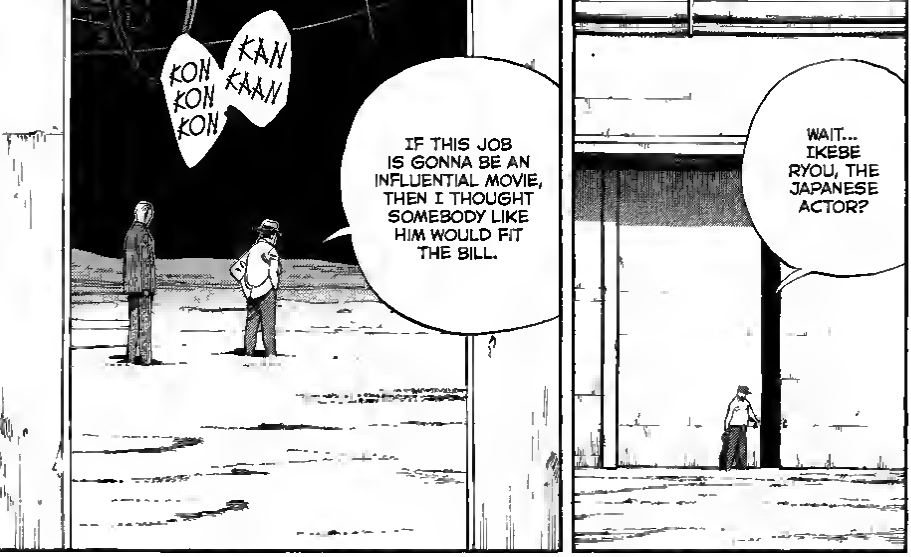
DO YOU GET THAT A LOT?
NO... WHO IS THAT...?
YOU DON'T KNOW? HE'S THE HANDSOME STAR, IKEBE RYOU!!
AH... AN ACTOR, IS HE? I... GREW UP IN AMERICA, SO...
!?
AAA AAA AH!!
金持ん
HUH?
HAA
HAA
I... I FOUND HIII~M!!
HAA
HAA
I FINALLY FOUND HIIIM!!
THE HANDSOME MAN THAT LOOKS LIKE IKEBE RYOUUU!!
金持ん

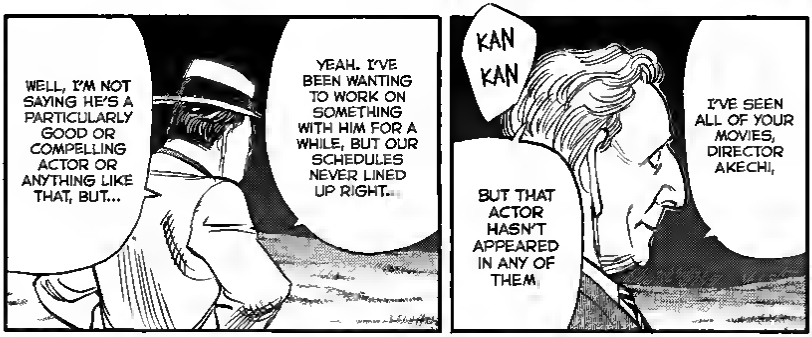
"KINJI" WRITTEN AS "RICH MAN", RIGHT?
Y.. YOU'RE
I GUESS SO...
Y... YEAH.
WHAT'RE YOU CRYING ABOUT?
SENSEI REALLY DID DO A GOOD DRAWING. WAAAA!!
I DID IT, ZOFUU-SENSEI!!!!!!!
UAAA!!
AH...
YOU KNOW ZOFUU-SENSEI?!
UEEEE!!
ZOFUU ...?!

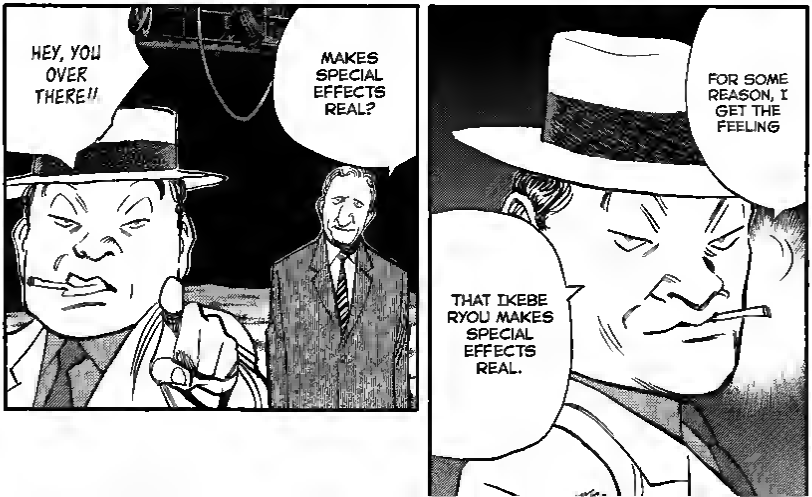

YOU REALLY LOOK JUST LIKE IKEBE RYOU~UEEEN!!
CALM DOWN! WHAT HAPPENED TO ZOFUU-SENSEI?!

FOR NOW, LET'S GO WITH IKEBE RYOU AS THE LEAD.

HUH?
ARIZONA


KON KON KON.
KAN KAAN
IF THIS JOB IS GONNA BE AN INFLUENTIAL MOVIE, THEN I THOUGHT SOMEBODY LIKE HIM WOULD FIT THE BILL.
WAIT... IKEBE RYOU, THE JAPANESE ACTOR?


WELL, I'M NOT SAYING HE'S A PARTICULARLY GOOD OR COMPELLING ACTOR OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, BUT...
YEAH. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO WORK ON SOMETHING WITH HIM FOR A WHILE, BUT OUR SCHEDULES NEVER LINED UP RIGHT.
KAN KAN
BUT THAT ACTOR HASN'T APPEARED IN ANY OF THEM
I'VE SEEN ALL OF YOUR MOVIES, DIRECTOR AKECHI,


HEY, YOU OVER THERE!!
MAKES SPECIAL EFFECTS REAL?
FOR SOME REASON, I GET THE FEELING
THAT IKEBE RYOU MAKES SPECIAL EFFECTS REAL.

THAT SAND DUNE'S GOTTA LOOK LIKE IT'S MUUUUCH FARTHER AWAY!!
YES?

YOU AIN'T PLAYING IN A SANDBOX! USE YOUR DAMN HEAD-!!
PERSPEC-TIVE, DAMMIT! PERSPEC-TIVE!!

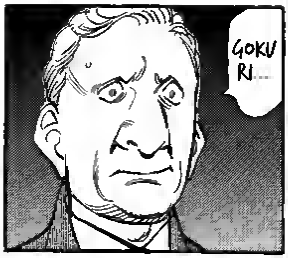
FARTHER ...?

IKEBE RYOU IS THAT LITTLE INGENUITY. HE'S GOT A SUBTLE REAL-LIFE FEEL.
THIS IS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT. ANY FAKE CAN LOOK REAL WITH A LITTLE INGENUITY.

O...OKAY!! LET'S BREAK DOWN THIS MOUNTAIN FOR NOW-!!

WHY, THEY SAY THE MOON IS A LOT LIKE THE EARTH, DON'T THEY?
I... IS THAT SO?
REAL-LIFE FEEL?
YEP. FOR ANYTHING PREPOSTEROUS, YOU NEED A REAL-LIFE FEEL.
HUH? DON'CHA KNOW? THEY SAY A FREAKIN' LONG TIME AGO, A GIANT METEOR HIT THE EARTH AND BOUNCED BACK OFF...
THEY SAY THAT ALL HARDENED TOGETHER AND MADE THE MOON
AND WHEN THAT HAPPENED THE METEOR TOOK A LOT OF SOIL FROM THE EARTH WITH IT.

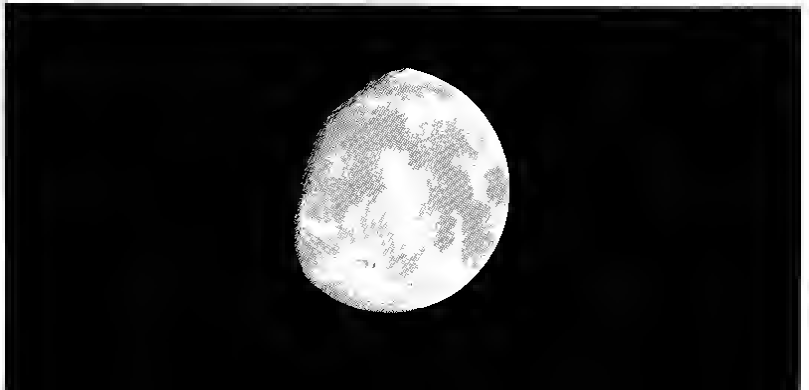
SO WHAT I'M SAYIN' IS THE MOON AND THE EARTH ARE MADE OF THE SAME SOIL.
SO YOU SHOULDN' BE AFRAID OF MAKING A FAKE MOON'S SURFACE.
I SEE... THE DEEP EMOTION I'M FEELING FROM HEARING THE MYSTERIES OF THE GENIUS DIRECTOR AKECHI'S CREATING TECHNIQUES EXPLAINED
IS GIVING ME GOOSE BUMPS.
THAT POWER OF IMAGINATION BRINGS REALITY TO THE SCREEN.
AND IT ACTUALLY CREATES ASTOUNDING CONCEPTUAL IDEAS.
OH?
FOR EXAMPLE ...?
LIKE SAY, MAYBE WHEN THE GIANT METEOR HIT THE EARTH, IT BROUGHT LOTS OF DIFFERENT VIRUSES WITH IT FROM SPACE, OR SOMETHING.
DIFFERENT KINDS OF VIRUSES ...?
LIKE ON NIGHTS WITH A FULL MOON,
A GERM THAT MAKES YOU GO CRAZY WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE MOON.


GOKU RI...

EH? INTERESTING, AIN'T IT?

MAYBE EVEN THAT'S AN ILLNESS LEFT BEHIND ON THE EARTH BY THE MOON IN ANCIENT TIMES

HYA HYA HYA!!

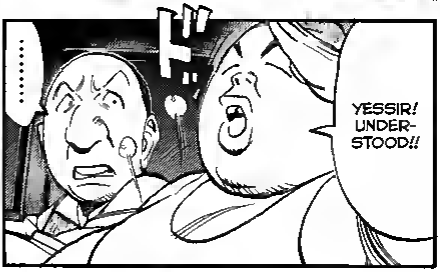


EVEN IF YOU DO SAY YOU HAVE A TAXI YOU'RE NOT USING...
NO... THAT'S NOT GOOD.
EITHER WAY, I DOUBT THE BATTERY'S WORKING.
I DON' MIND. ANYHOW, THE OLD GEEZER DIED, SO IT DOESN' HAVE A DRIVER.
HEY, JACKIE!!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MA'AM.
YAHOO! YOU DID IT, DAD!!
AH!!
GARY URYU RU!!

NO, NO, NO, I'M ONLY LICENSED TO DRIVE A TAXI IN NEW YORK. IF THE JAPANESE POLICE FIND ME...
SORRY, MOMOCHI-SAN, BUT I'LL NEED YOU TO DRIVE THE TAXI UNTIL WE REACH OUR DESTINATION...

I'D LIKE TO SLOWLY CHECK THROUGH EACH PAGE, BUT...
THE MOUNTAINS ON ZOFUU-SENSEI'S MANUSCRIPT THAT YOU BROUGHT...

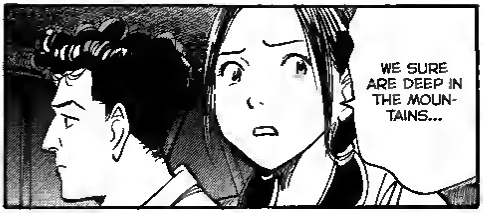
.....
YAMASHITA-KUN, I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO SHOW US THE WAY THERE.


.....
YESSIR! UNDER-STOOD!!

"PLEASE JUST HURRY"? GEEZ...

RIGHT NOW THERE'S NO TIME. FOR NOW, PLEASE JUST HURRY TO KOUMORI VILLAGE.

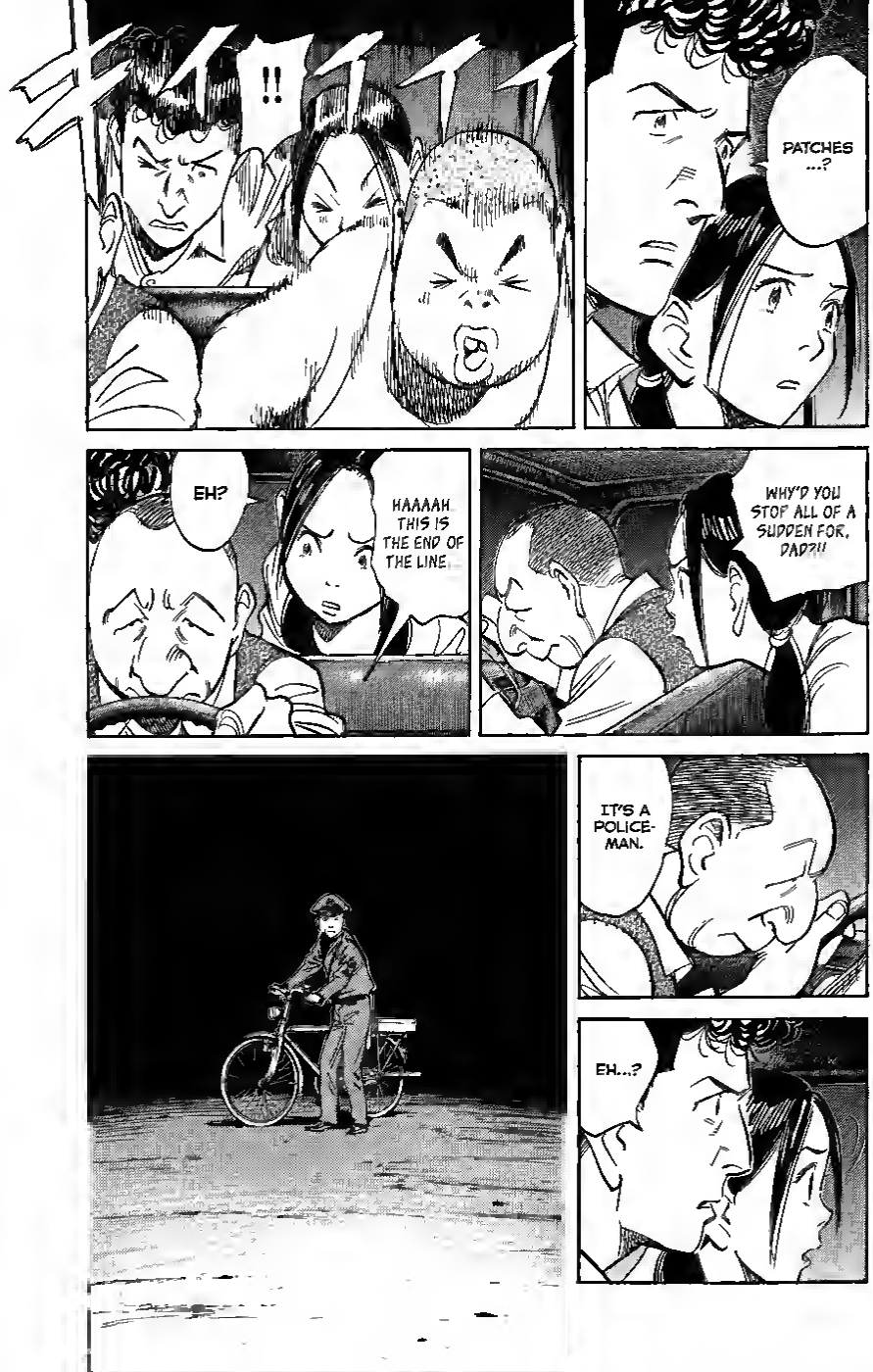
ゴロゴロ
I DON'T GET THIS WHOLE THING...


WE SURE ARE DEEP IN THE MOUN-TAINS...

ANOTHER HALF HOUR, HUH?
IT SHOULD TAKE ABOUT ANOTHER 30 MINUTES.

ゴー

...SO, YAMASHITA-KUN, WHAT DID THE REPEATED SUICIDES IN THE VILLAGE HAVE TO DO WITH ZOFUU-SENSEI...?
HE DIDN' REALLY SAY ANYTHING ABOUT THAT.
BUT...
BUT...?
HE SAID "IT'S FINALLY COME".
...WHAT?
A FOR-EIGNER.
A FOR-EIGNER?
A FOREIGNER THAT GAVE THE KIDS PATCHES.

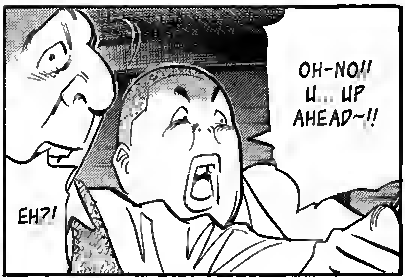

!!
PATCHES ...?
EH?
HAAAAH THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE.
WHY'D YOU STOP ALL OF A SUDDEN FOR, DAD?!!
IT'S A POLICE-MAN.
EH...?

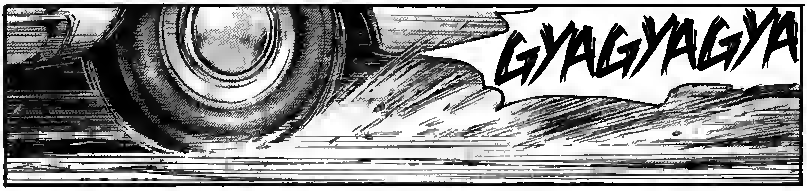
I'M GETTING OUT.
!!
HE'S A RESIDENT OFFICER!!
SLOWLY, SO I DON'T LOOK SUSPICIOUS...
I'LL TRY TO SLOWLY PASS BY.
GEEE-EEZ
EH..?
I CALLED THE POLICE SUBSTATION SEVERAL TIMES.
OFFICER!!
BUT NO ONE PICKED UP, SO I GOT WORRIED. HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED?

IS SOME-THING GOING ON IN THE VILLAGE?
WAIT...
(HIRRN
AH!
HE'S LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON.
THAT OFFICER IS ALWAYS BLAMING PEOPLE, I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM BE THAT QUIET.
EH?
(HIR RN

Y... YES. ANYHOW, LET'S JUST HEAD INTO THE VILLAGE.
IS... IS EVERYTHING OKAY...?
.....
ガッ
ゴオオオオ

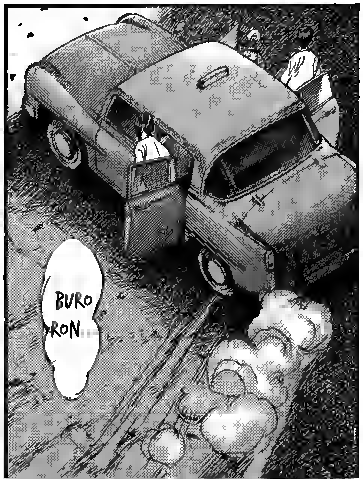
THERE'S NO WAY A KID WOULD BE WALKIN' AROUND AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT!!
HYAAA A KID!!

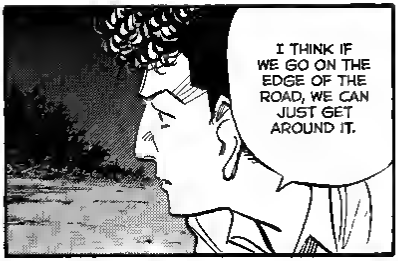

OH-NO!! U... UP AHEAD~!!
EH?!

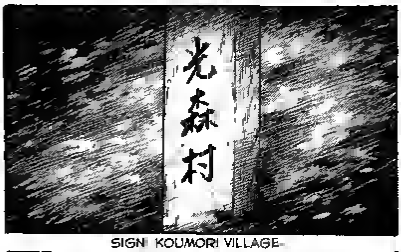

GYAGYAGYA

H... HEY, WHAT THE HELL'S THIS?

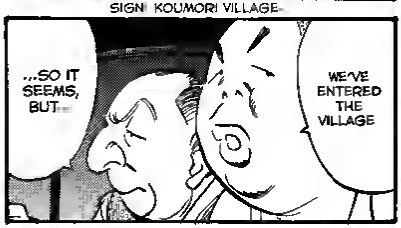
KARA


BURO RON



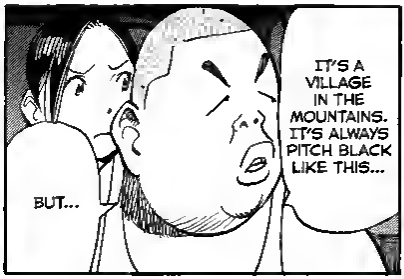


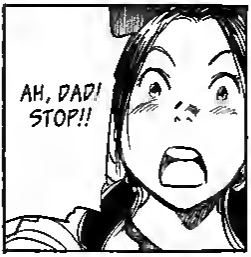
SIGN: KOUMORI VILLAGE

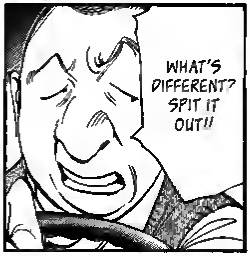


EVEN IF IT IS THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, DOESN'T IT SEEM TOO DARK?

BUT WHAT?

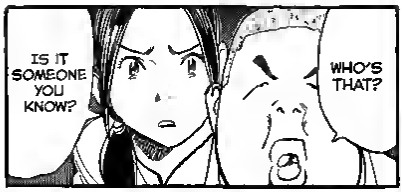

IT'S A VILLAGE IN THE MOUNTAINS. IT'S ALWAYS PITCH BLACK LIKE THIS...
BUT...


AH, DAD! STOP!!

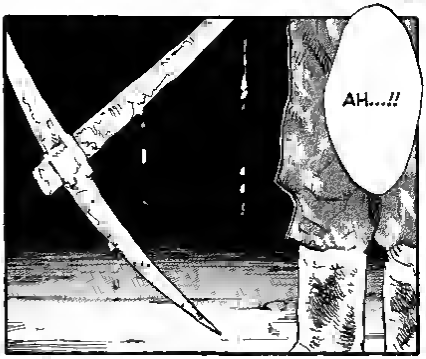

WHAT'S DIFFERENT? SPIT IT OUT!!

SOMETHING ABOUT THE VILLAGE IS DIFFERENT FROM NORMAL...

KI-I-I-I

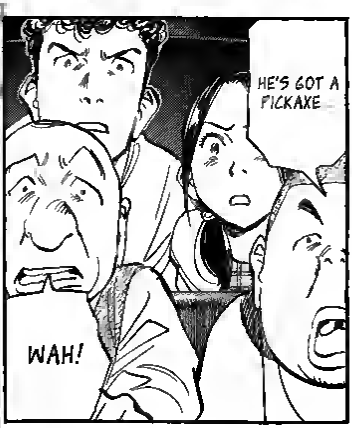

IS IT SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
WHO'S THAT?

WHA? HE'S ALL COVERED IN MUD!!


AH...!!

HE'S COVERED FROM HEAD TO TOE IN MUD! I CAN'T TELL WHO IT IS!

DAD, BACK UP!!
HE'S COMING THIS WAY!


HE'S GOT A PICKAXE...
WAH!

HURRR-
YYYYY!!
GYA
GYA
GYA
AH...
HUH?
SHIT!!
HURRY!!
KYUH
KYUH
KYUH
.....
!!
KYAAA

MUD GO BACK

GO
BACK...

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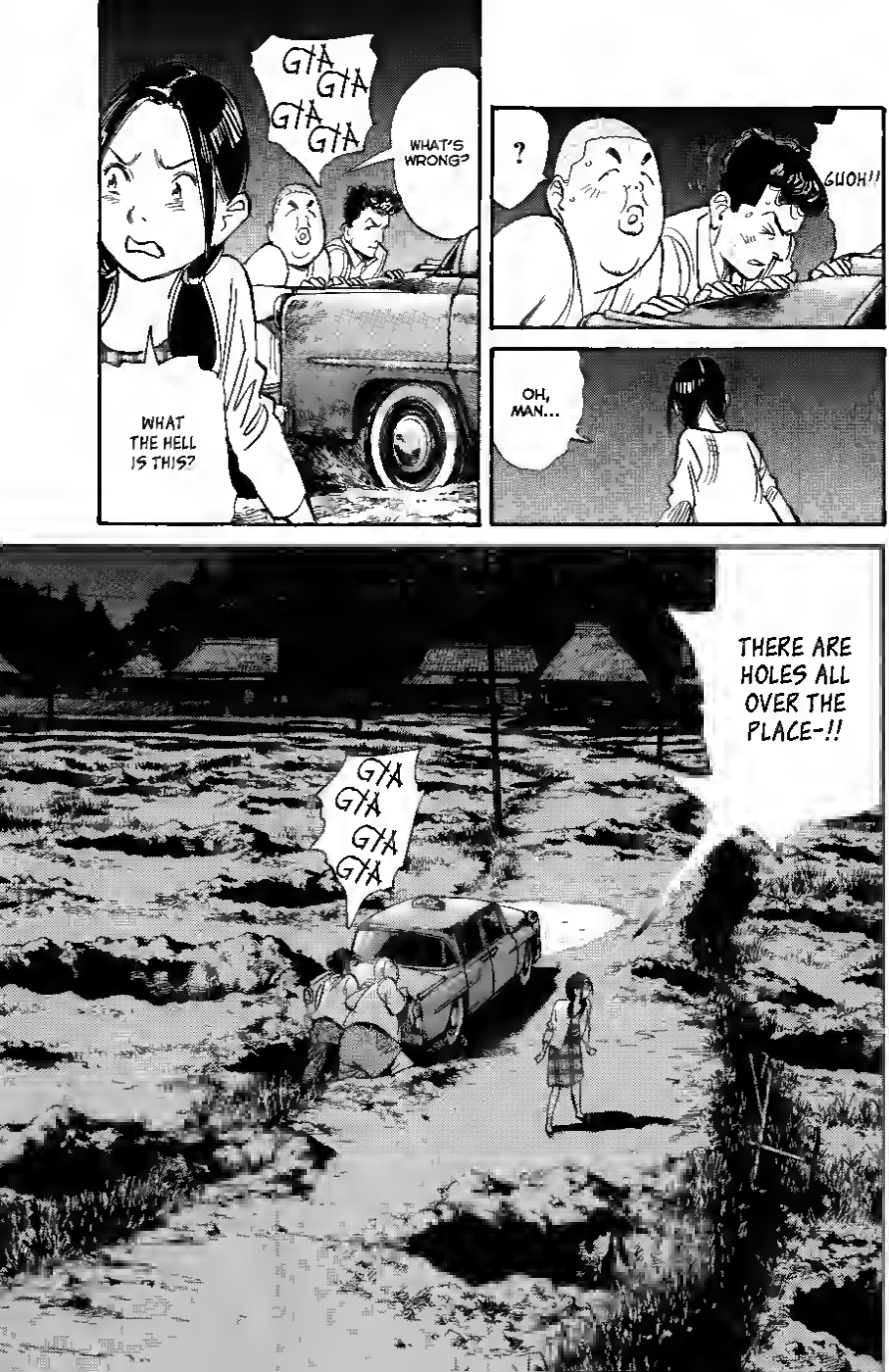
MUD GO BACK

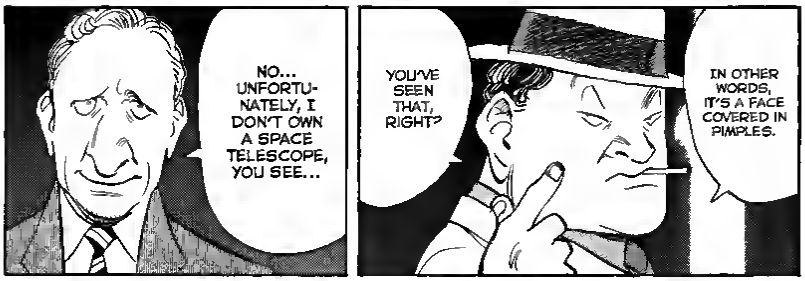
CHAPTER 76
ALL HOLES

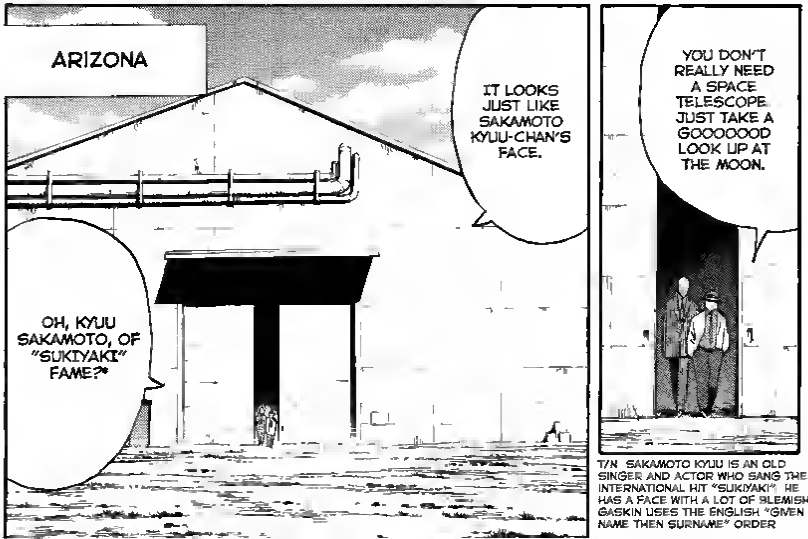
H... HEY, UM, GIVEN WHAT WE'RE SEEING HERE, MAYBE WE SHOULD, YOU KNOW...
WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON IN THIS VILLAGE...?
RETREAT?
I'D HAVE TO AGREE WITH MY DAUGHTER.
.....
YOUR GOAL IS TO SAVE YOUR MASTER, RIGHT, KEVIN-SAN?
WHATEVER YOU SAY ABOUT RESEARCH, FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN GOING ALL THIS WAY WITH YOU...

NOT EVEN THAT, I'M SAYING WE SHOULD ALL GET OUT OF HERE!!
IF YOU'RE GOING TO GO, THEN YOU'LL HAVE TO GO WITHOUT US.
SORRY, BUT I CAN'T EXPOSE MY DAUGHTER TO ANY MORE DANGER.
I DON'T THINK NORMALLY YOU'D SEE THE WORDS "GO BACK" WRITTEN ON A WINDSHIELD!!
LITTLE KIDS WALKING AROUND IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, A MAN COVERED IN MUD CARRYING A PICKAXE
THIS VILLAGE ISN'T NORMAL!!
I'M MAKING A U-TURN, SO LOOK OUT BEHIND YOU.
ANYHOW, I THINK WE SHOULD GO BACK.
HMPH.
KYU KYU
ゴゴゴ…
GIA GIA GIA

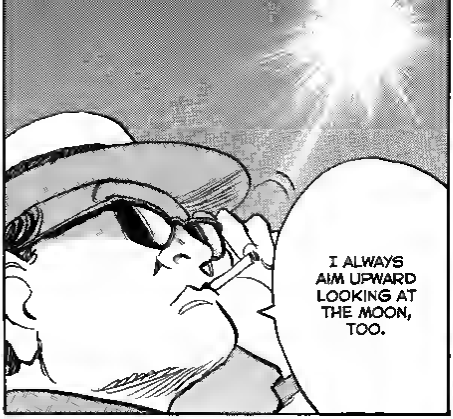
TH-... THE CAR WON'T MOVE!!
WH-... WHAT'S WRONG, DAD?!!
GTA GTA GTAH
HUH?
GTA GTA GTAH
WHAT DO WE DO?!
OH, THAT'S NOT GOOD.
YOU'RE STUCK IN A HOLE.
GTAGTA GTAH!!
HURRY!! IF WE DON'T GET OUT OF HERE SOON, THAT PICKAXE MAN WILL...
GUOH!!
GTA GTA GTAH
YAMASHITA-KUN, PUSH FROM THERE!!
GOT IT!!
EH?

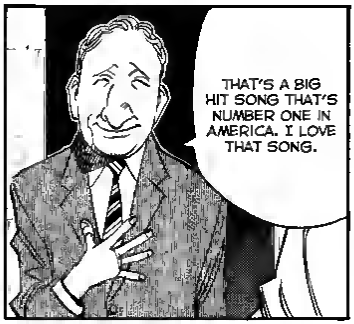

GIA GIA GIA GIA
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?
?
GUOH!!
OH, MAN...
THERE ARE HOLES ALL OVER THE PLACE-!!
GIA GIA GIA GIA

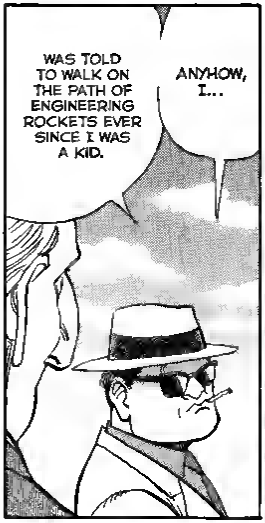


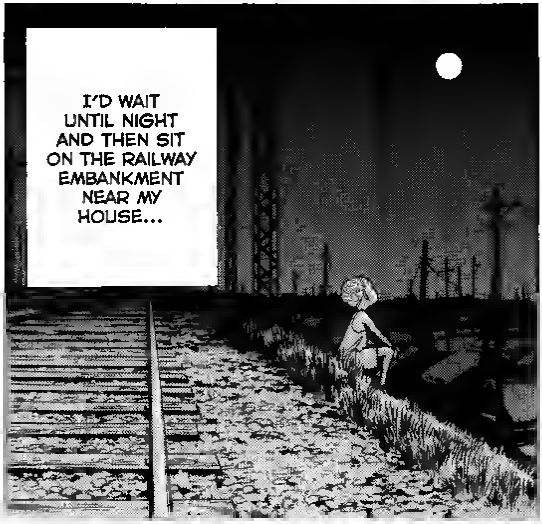

ARIZONA
IT LOOKS JUST LIKE SAKAMOTO KYUU-CHAN'S FACE.
OH, KYUU SAKAMOTO, OF "SUKIYAKI" FAME?*
YOU DON'T REALLY NEED A SPACE TELESCOPE. JUST TAKE A GOOOOOOD LOOK UP AT THE MOON.

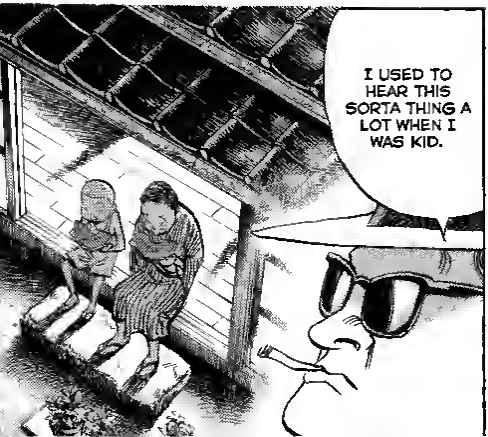
T/N SAKAMOTO KYUU IS AN OLD SINGER AND ACTOR WHO SANG THE INTERNATIONAL HIT "SUKIYAKI". HE HAS A FACE WITH A LOT OF BLEMISHES. GASKIN USES THE ENGLISH "GIVEN NAME THEN SURNAME" ORDER

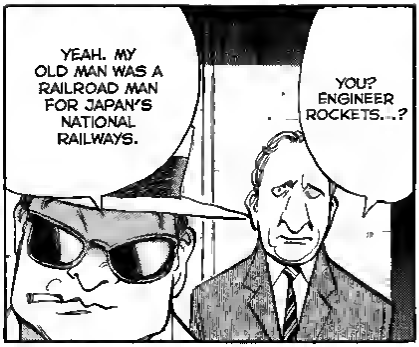

I ALWAYS AIM UPWARD LOOKING AT THE MOON, TOO.

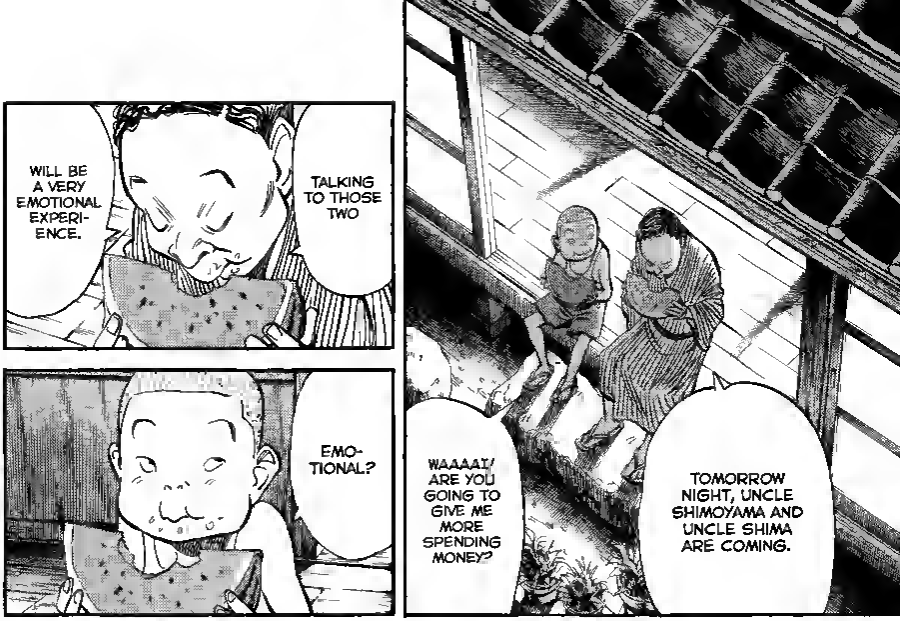

THAT'S A BIG HIT SONG THAT'S NUMBER ONE IN AMERICA. I LOVE THAT SONG.

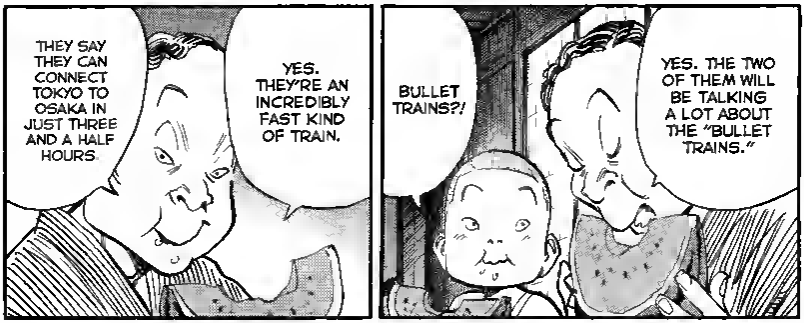

ANYHOW, I...
WAS TOLD TO WALK ON THE PATH OF ENGINEERING ROCKETS EVER SINCE I WAS A KID.

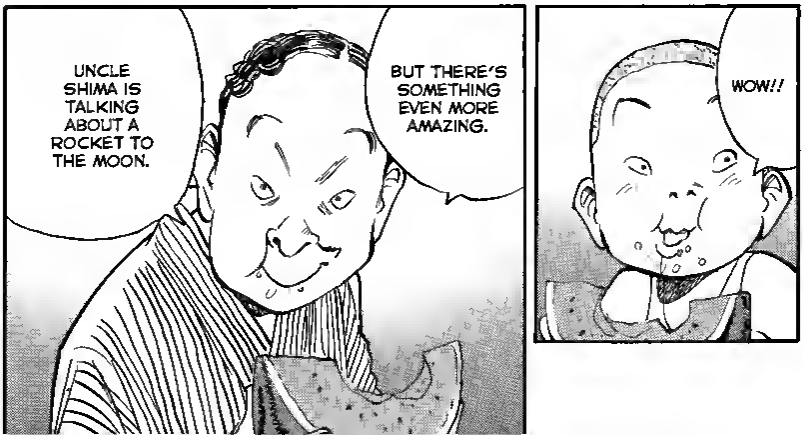

I'D WAIT UNTIL NIGHT AND THEN SIT ON THE RAILWAY EMBANKMENT NEAR MY HOUSE...


I USED TO HEAR THIS SORTA THING A LOT WHEN I WAS KID.


YEAH. MY OLD MAN WAS A RAILROAD MAN FOR JAPAN'S NATIONAL RAILWAYS.
YOU? ENGINEER ROCKETS...?


TOMORROW NIGHT, UNCLE SHIMOYAMA AND UNCLE SHIMA ARE COMING.
WAAAAA! ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE ME MORE SPENDING MONEY?
TALKING TO THOSE TWO WILL BE A VERY EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE.
EMOTIONAL?

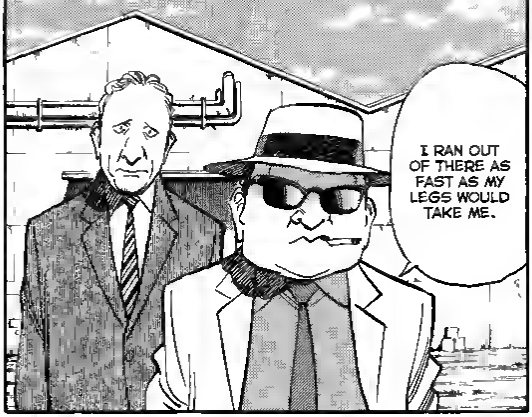

YES. THE TWO OF THEM WILL BE TALKING A LOT ABOUT THE "BULLET TRAINS."
BULLET TRAINS?!
YES. THEY'RE AN INCREDIBLY FAST KIND OF TRAIN.
THEY SAY THEY CAN CONNECT TOKYO TO OSAKA IN JUST THREE AND A HALF HOURS.


WOW!!
BUT THERE'S SOMETHING EVEN MORE AMAZING.
UNCLE SHIMA IS TALKING ABOUT A ROCKET TO THE MOON.

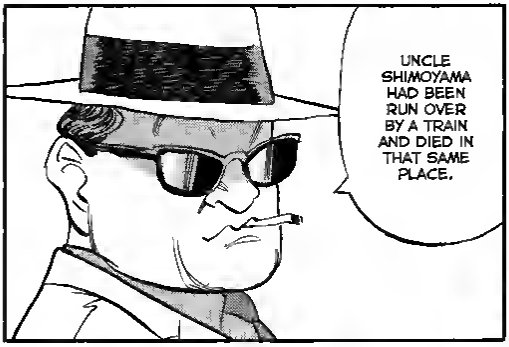
YES. UNCLE SHIMA AND UNCLE SHIMOYAMA HAVE BEEN TALKING EMPHATICALLY ABOUT IT...
WE'RE HEADING INTO THE ROCKET AGE.
ROCKET TO THE MOON...?
THEY'RE SAYING THAT EVENTUALLY THE NATIONAL RAILWAY WILL BUILD A SPACE SHIP
AND GO TO THE MOON!!
SO STUDY VERY HARD,
AND YOU'LL GO TO THE MOON ONE DAY!!
WE'RE ABOUT THE ENTER THE AGE OF ROCKET ENGINEERING.
UNDERSTAND, KOTAROU?

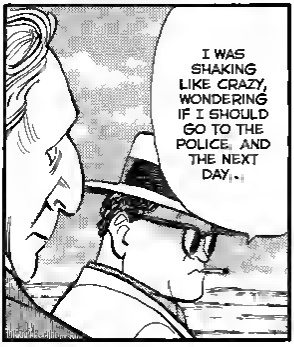
UP UNTIL THAT NIGHT...
THAT NIGHT...?
I WAS BROUGHT UP BEING TOLD THINGS LIKE THAT. SO EVEN WHEN I GOT OLDER, LOOKING UP AT THE MOON FROM THE RAILWAY EMBANKMENT WAS A NIGHTLY ROUTINE.
I CLIMBED UP THE EMBANKMENT LIKE ALWAYS. BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, THERE WAS NO MOON THAT DARK NIGHT.
WHEN TWO MEN CAME RUNNING DOWN FROM THE TOP OF THE EMBANKMENT.
I WAS THINKING I'D SMOKE THE CIGARETTE I'D HID FROM MY PARENTS AND HEAD HOME

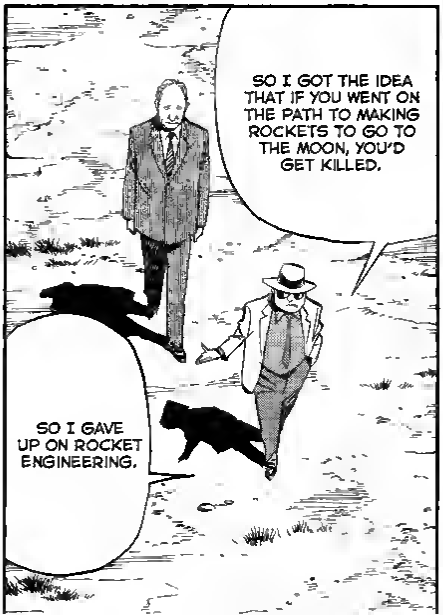
WHEN I FINISHED SMOKING THE CIGARETTE
THEY WERE GOIN' AT AN INCREDIBLE PACE.
DATAN
DATAN
DATAN
A FREIGHT TRAIN PASSED BY.
DATAN
AND IN FRONT OF MY EYES, A HUMAN CORPSE WAS ATROCIOUSLY SPLATTERED ALL OVER.

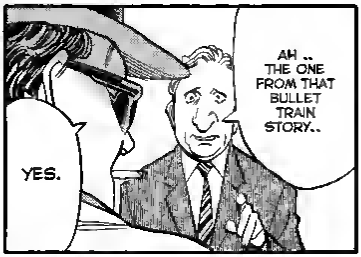

I RAN OUT OF THERE AS FAST AS MY LEGS WOULD TAKE ME.

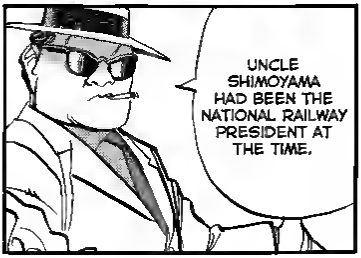
OOH...


UNCLE SHIMOYAMA HAD BEEN RUN OVER BY A TRAIN AND DIED IN THAT SAME PLACE.


I WAS SHAKING LIKE CRAZY, WONDERING IF I SHOULD GO TO THE POLICE. AND THE NEXT DAY...


SO I GOT THE IDEA THAT IF YOU WENT ON THE PATH TO MAKING ROCKETS TO GO TO THE MOON, YOU'D GET KILLED.
SO I GAVE UP ON ROCKET ENGINEERING.


AH .. THE ONE FROM THAT BULLET TRAIN STORY..
YES.


UNCLE SHIMOYAMA HAD BEEN THE NATIONAL RAILWAY PRESIDENT AT THE TIME.

HYA HYA HYAH!
UM...
NOW I'M IN THIS PROJECT MAKING A FAKE MOON.
AND HAVING GIVEN UP ON MY DREAM TO GO TO THE MOON,
?
THOSE TWO WERE PROBABLY ALSO THE ONES WHO GOT UNCLE SHIMOYAMA THE NEXT DAY, TOO.
SO IN THE END, YOU DIDN'T CONTACT THE POLICE?
OF COURSE NOT. I WOULD'VE BEEN KILLED.
IT WASN'T A FACE THAT I'D SAY BELONGED TO A MURDERER...
I SAW.
ONE OF THE TWO MEN'S FACES WHEN THEY WERE ESCAPING...

IT WAS A DELICATE-LOOKING MAN THAT LOOKED JUST LIKE IKEBE RYOU
HE WAS A CULPRIT IN THE SHIMOYAMA INCIDENT... NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
GUOO!!
GYA GYA GYA GYA GYA GYA GYA GYA GYA
NUOO !!
GYA GYA GYA GYA GYA GYA

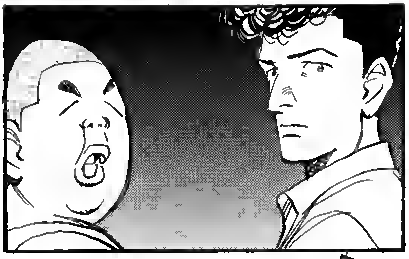
YOU DID IIIIT!!
BUHEEEE
BUO ONN
OKAY! C'MON, EVERYONE, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!!
OKAY! EVERYONE GET IN!!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, KEVIN-SAN?! YOU, TOO! HURRY...
AH...

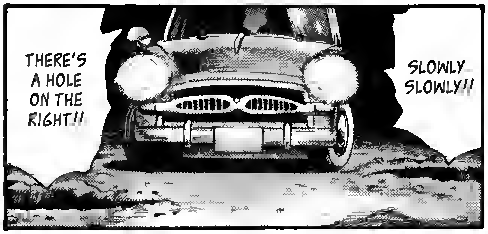
EH...?
I'M GOING TO WALK FROM HERE.
HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO DRAW BILLY BAT... HOW TO DRAW MANGA.
ZOFUU-SENSEI IS MY MASTER.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! YOU'LL BE KILLED WITH A PICKAXE!!
ZA...
AH...
IF DANGER IS APPROACHING THE MASTER, THEN IT'S THE DISCIPLE'S MISSION TO JUMP TO HIS SIDE.

IN A MOVIE I SAW A WHILE AGO... IKEBE RYOU PLAYED A POLICEMAN THAT STOOD UP ALONE AGAINST EVIL... HE LOOKS JUST LIKE THAT.
EH?
HE REALLY DOES LOOK JUST LIKE IKEBE RYOU...
DAD, SAY SOMETHING!!
AH!
I'M GOING, TOO!!
GET IN, SIRS!!
IH?!
THERE'S STILL A FAIR DISTANCE TO WALK TO GET TO THE VILLAGE.
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?

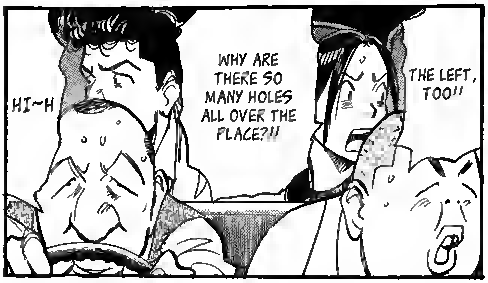
NO MATTER WHERE A CUSTOMER SAYS TO GO, WE NEVER REFUSE.
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE A NEW YORK TAXI DRIVER.

HA~H




THERE'S A HOLE ON THE RIGHT!!
SLOWLY SLOWLY!!

ガ!!

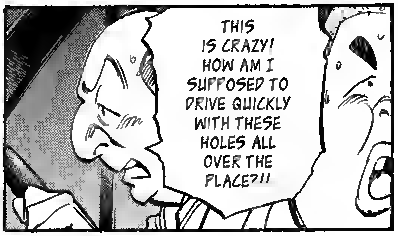

HI~H
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY HOLES ALL OVER THE PLACE?!!
THE LEFT, TOO!!

THEY JUST DUG RANDOMLY ON BOTH THE ROAD AND THE FARMLAND...
WHY ON EARTH...?
THEY'RE PITFALLS SO OUTSIDERS CAN'T GET INTO THE VILLAGE...
WH.. WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?!
OH... OH MA~N!!
!!
!?
O... OVER THERE!!

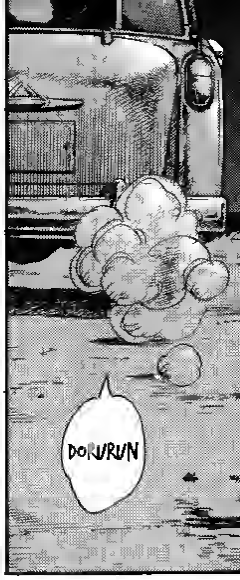
A TON OF PEOPLE ARE...
COMING OUT OF A HOLE...

KYAAAAA!!

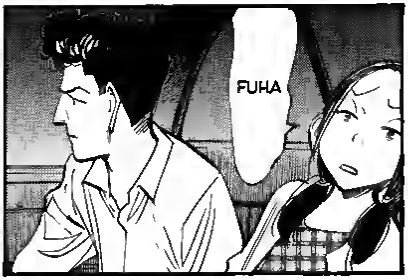
THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY! QUICK, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!


THIS IS CRAZY! HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO DRIVE QUICKLY WITH THESE HOLES ALL OVER THE PLACE?!!

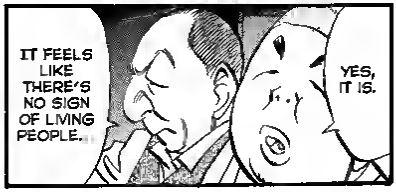
I KNOW!!
THERE'S A FIELD ON THE RIGHT!!
UH-OH! THERE'S A HOLE RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF THE ROAD!!
HUR-RY~!!
HANG ON TIGHT!!
KYAAAA!!
GO!!
WE'RE GONNA CROSS THE EMBANKMENT ON A TILT!!

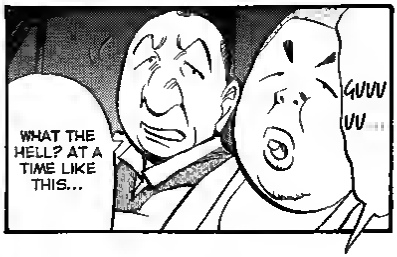

DORURUN

IS THIS THE CENTER OF THE VILLAGE?


FUHA

定食 うどん
SET MEAL UDON

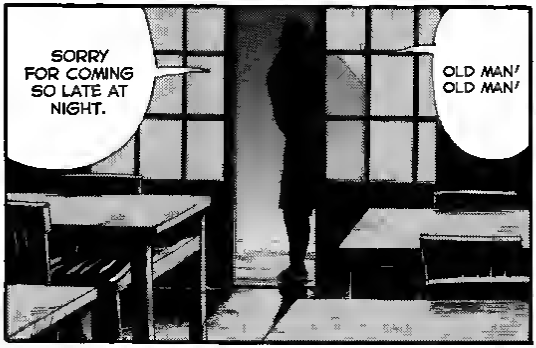

IT FEELS LIKE THERE'S NO SIGN OF LIVING PEOPLE...
YES, IT IS.


WHAT THE HELL? AT A TIME LIKE THIS...
GUUU UU...

I EAT HERE FOUR TIMES A WEEK.
IT'S OKAY. THE OLD MAN HERE IS A NICE GUY.

I JUST CAN'T ENDURE IT ANYMORE!
AH... HEY!!

YOU SERIOUSLY THINK IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT...?


SORRY FOR COMING SO LATE AT NIGHT.
OLD MAN! OLD MAN!

GARA

LET'S JUST GO?
COULD I HAVE A BOWL OF UDON-?

OLD MAAAN!

HELP ME...
THE FOR-EIGNER...

RED HAWK
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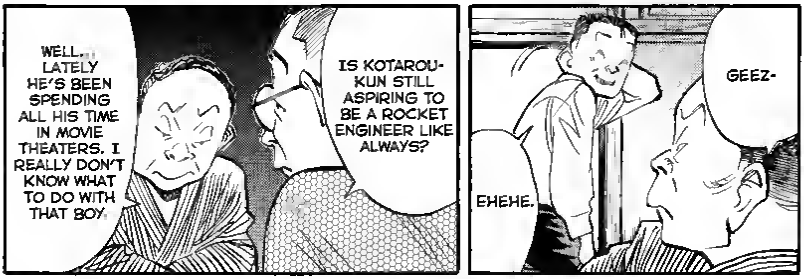
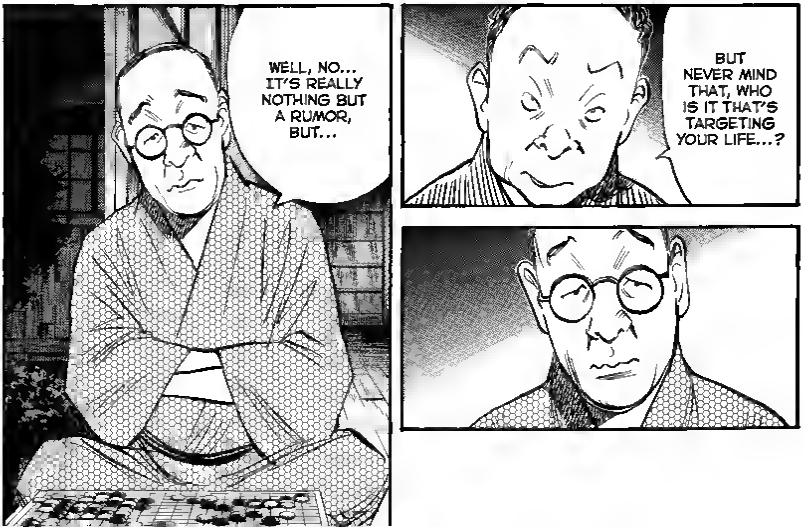
PI SHIH
OH HO-HO. YOU'RE COMING FROM THAT ANGLE, EH?
QUIT IT WITH THE "PRESIDENT" STUFF.
DID BECOMING THE PRESIDENT MAKE YOU THAT RIGID?
I COULDN'T WAIT ANYMORE.
GEEZ, YOU'RE HARSH.

CHAPTER 77 DEMON ON THE MOON

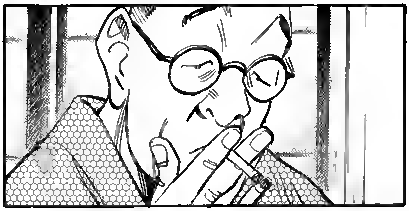
WELL, IT'S GOTTA HAVE PROBLEMS A LIFE-LONG CRAFTSMAN LIKE ME COULD NEVER DREAM OF.
I'M IN NO POSITION TO BE CALLED SENPAI BY A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL MAN LIKE YOURSELF.
YOU, TOO. CUT IT WITH THE SENPAI STUFF.
NO, NO. THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL RAILWAYS ISN'T SOMETHING YOU WANT TO BE.
AT ANY RATE, I GET THREATS LIKE "I'M GONNA KILL YOU" AND THINGS LIKE THAT.
OOOH, KOTAROU-KUN.
AH, GOOD EVENING, UNCLE SHIMOYAMA.
YOU'RE NOT BEING SERIOUS, ARE YOU?

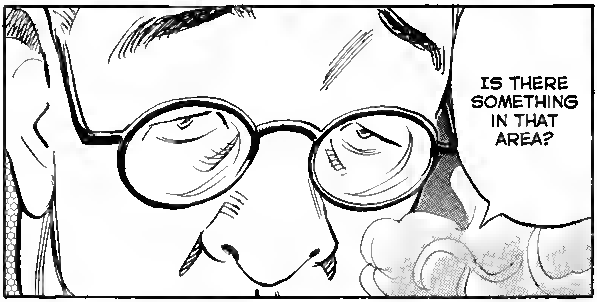
HE'LL JUST BLOW IT ON CIGARETTES.
GO BUY YOURSELF A REFERENCE BOOK.
EHEHE, THANK YOU.
HAVE YOU BEEN STUDYING?
AH, YES!!
AH... I TOLD YOU, IT'S FINE. HE'S GETTING OLDER, YOU DON'T NEED TO GIVE HIM POCKET MONEY...


WELL... LATELY HE'S BEEN SPENDING ALL HIS TIME IN MOVIE THEATERS. I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH THAT BOY.
IS KOTAROU-KUN STILL ASPIRING TO BE A ROCKET ENGINEER LIKE ALWAYS?
GEEZ-
EHEHE.


WELL, NO... IT'S REALLY NOTHING BUT A RUMOR, BUT...
BUT NEVER MIND THAT, WHO IS IT THAT'S TARGETING YOUR LIFE...?

IT'S BECAUSE I WON'T HAND OVER THE RIGHTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILWAYS.
THEY'RE MAKING IT OUT TO BE A COMMUNIST AGENDA, AND THEY'RE TRYING TO GET ME OUT OF THE PICTURE, APPARENTLY...
A CERTAIN ORGANIZATION IN THE OCCUPYING ARMY—
WHAT...?
WAIT, WAIT, WHAT? THAT SOUNDS INCREDIBLY COMPLICATED.
AND THAT IF I JUST GIVE THEM THAT, THEY'LL GUARANTEE THE SAFETY OF MY LIFE.
THEY'VE BEEN PERSISTENTLY TELLING US TO SUBMIT TO THEM A CERTAIN PLOT OF LAND THE NATIONAL RAILWAYS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING FOR.
WHERE IS IT YOU'RE FROM, AKECHI-SENPAI—
A CERTAIN PLOT OF LAND...?
BY THE WAY, RECENTLY ANOTHER RUMOR HAS CROPPED UP.
HOH...

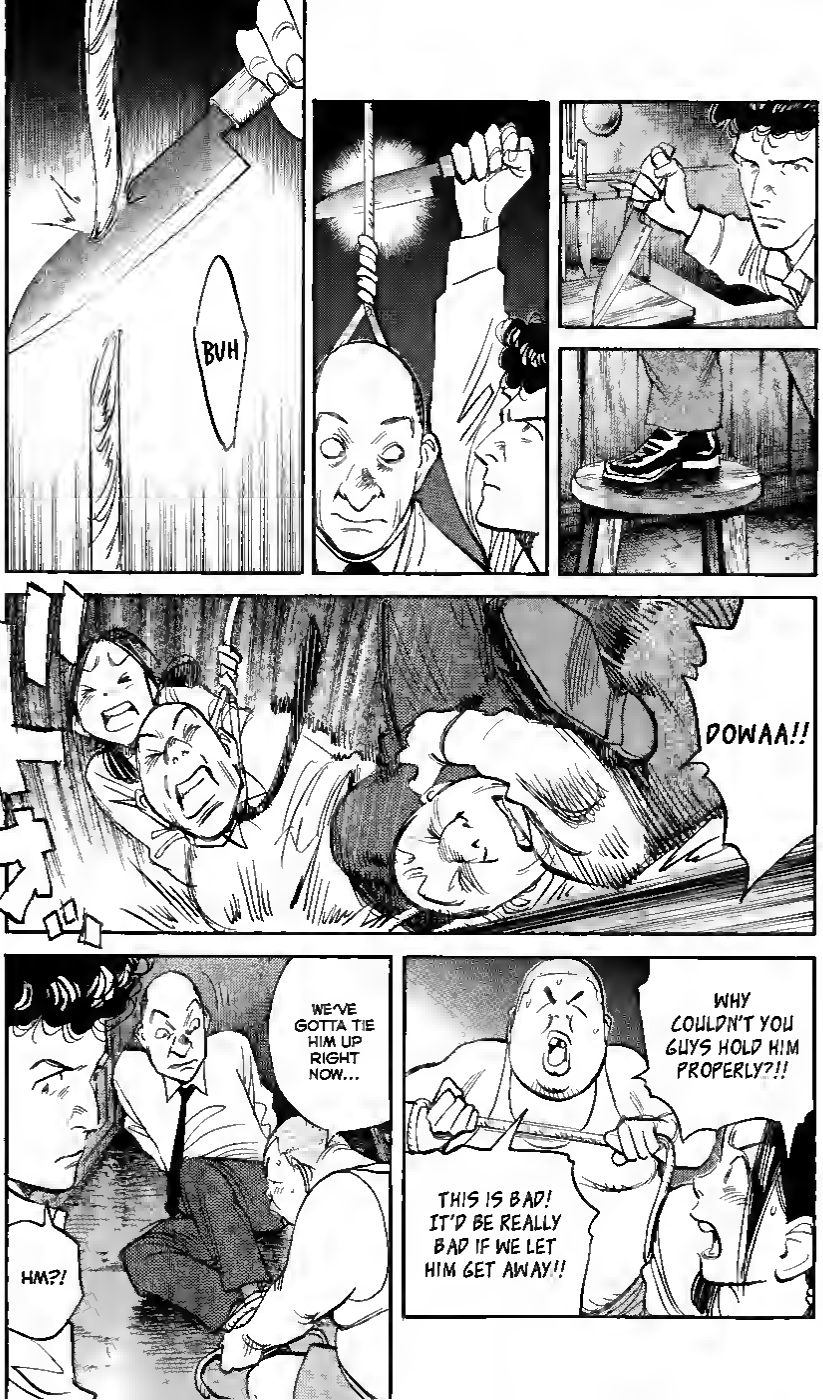


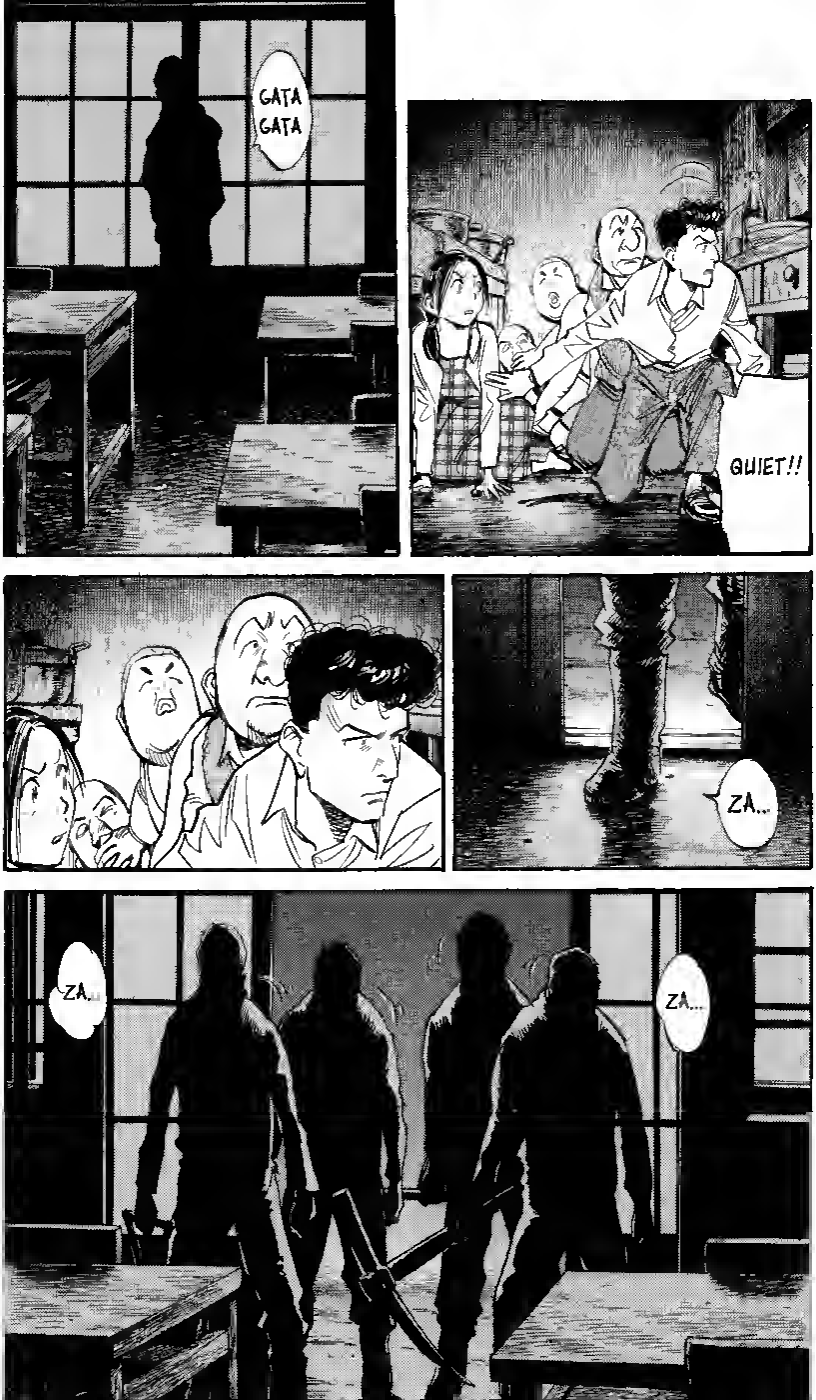


SIGN: SET-MEAL UDON

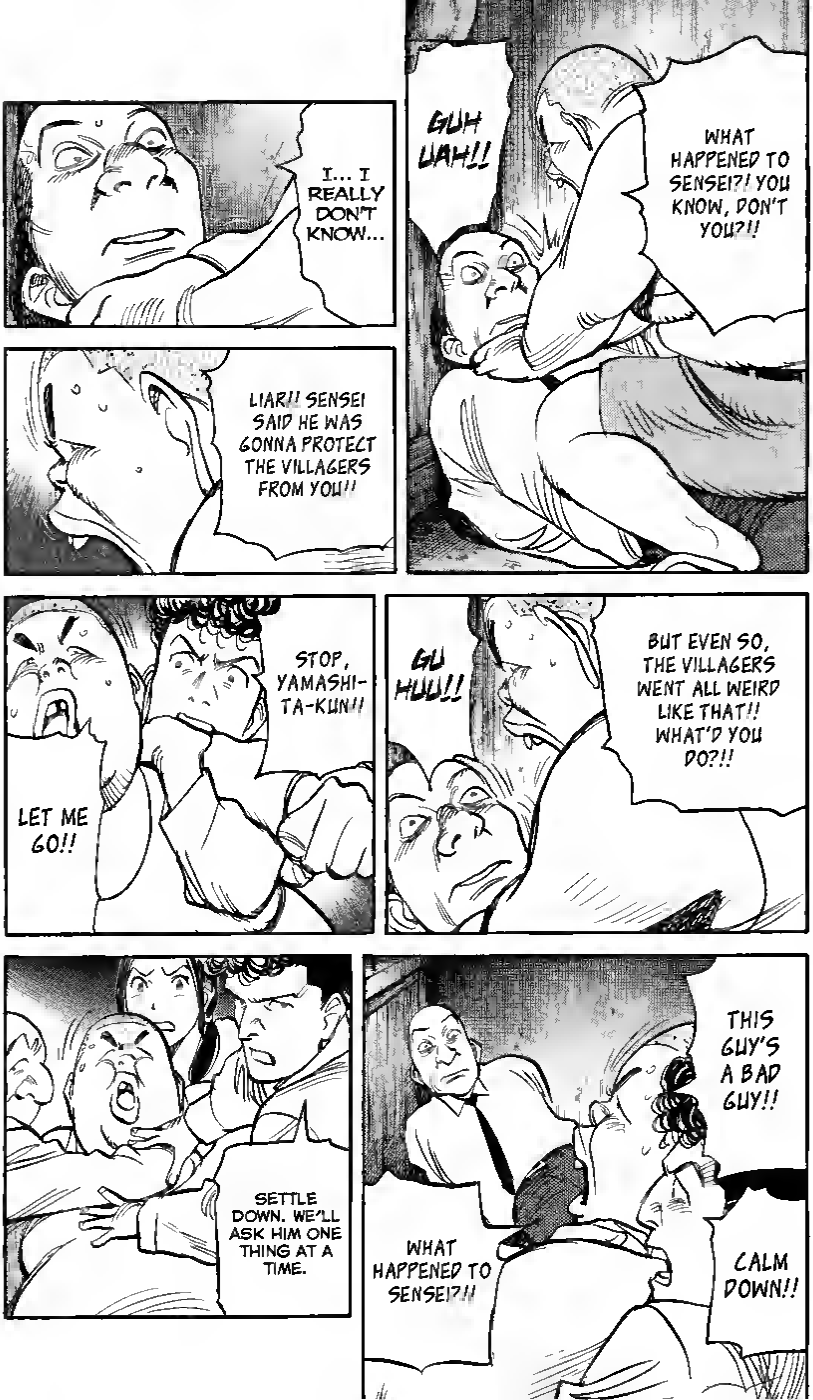
HELP M...
H...
GI...
UWAA!!
HURRY, SOMEBODY, DO SOMETHING!!

TO RUN AWAY FROM THIS FOREIGNER!!
NO!!
ZOFUU-SENSEI TOLD ME
HE SAID TO RUN AWAY FOR THE SAKE OF THE EARTH'S FUTURE!!
ANYHOW, LET'S JUST GET HIM DOWN FOR NOW. YOU HOLD HIM, MOMOCHI-SAN!!
OKAY!!
BUT IF WE JUST LEAVE HIM, HE'LL...
HANG TO DEATH!!


BUH
DOWAA!!
WE'VE GOTTA TIE HIM UP RIGHT NOW...
HM?!
WHY COULDN'T YOU GUYS HOLD HIM PROPERLY?!!
THIS IS BAD! IT'D BE REALLY BAD IF WE LET HIM GET AWAY!!


GATA GATA
QUIET!!
ZA...
ZA...
ZA...

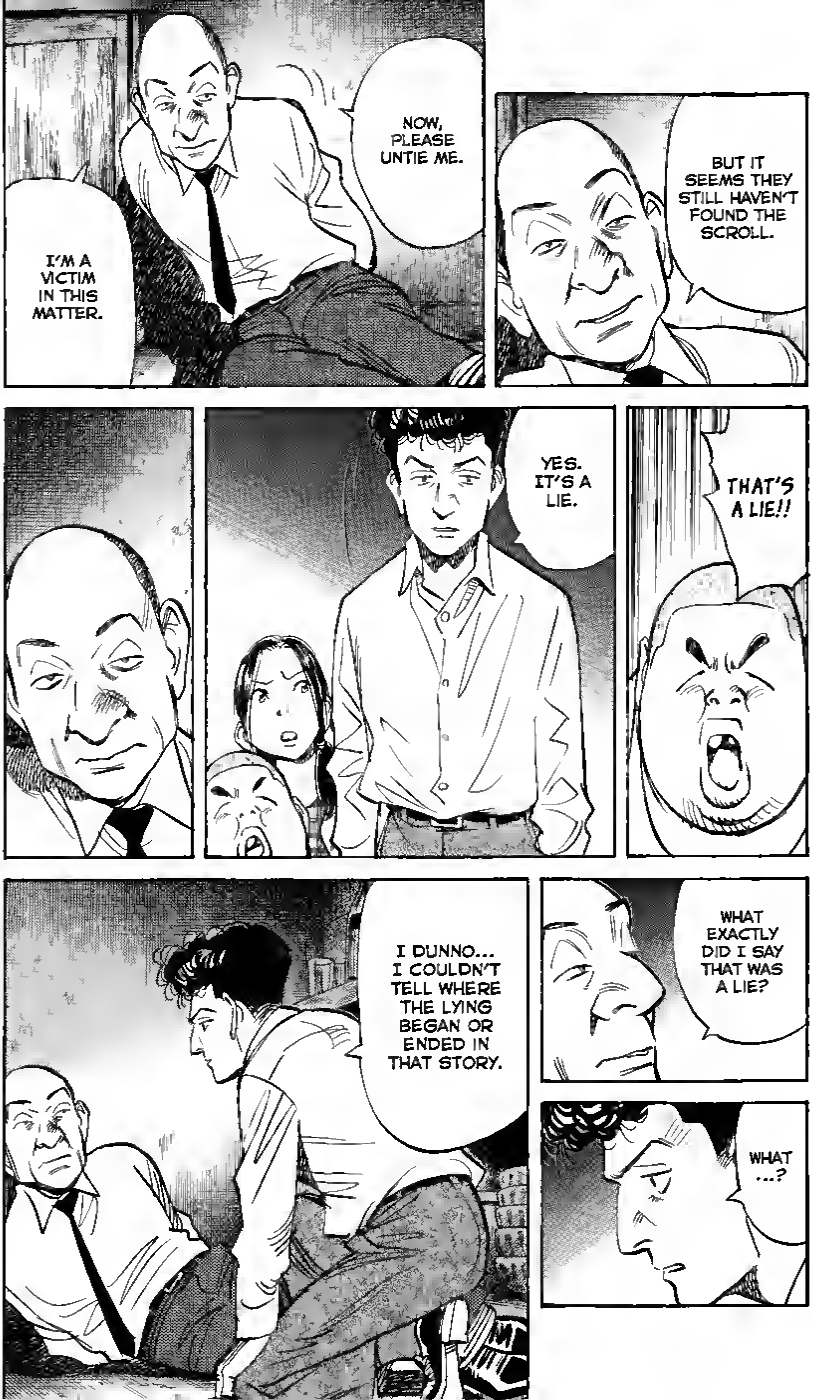
GUOH!
I STOPPED BREATHING... THAT HURT~
HE~W!
PISHA

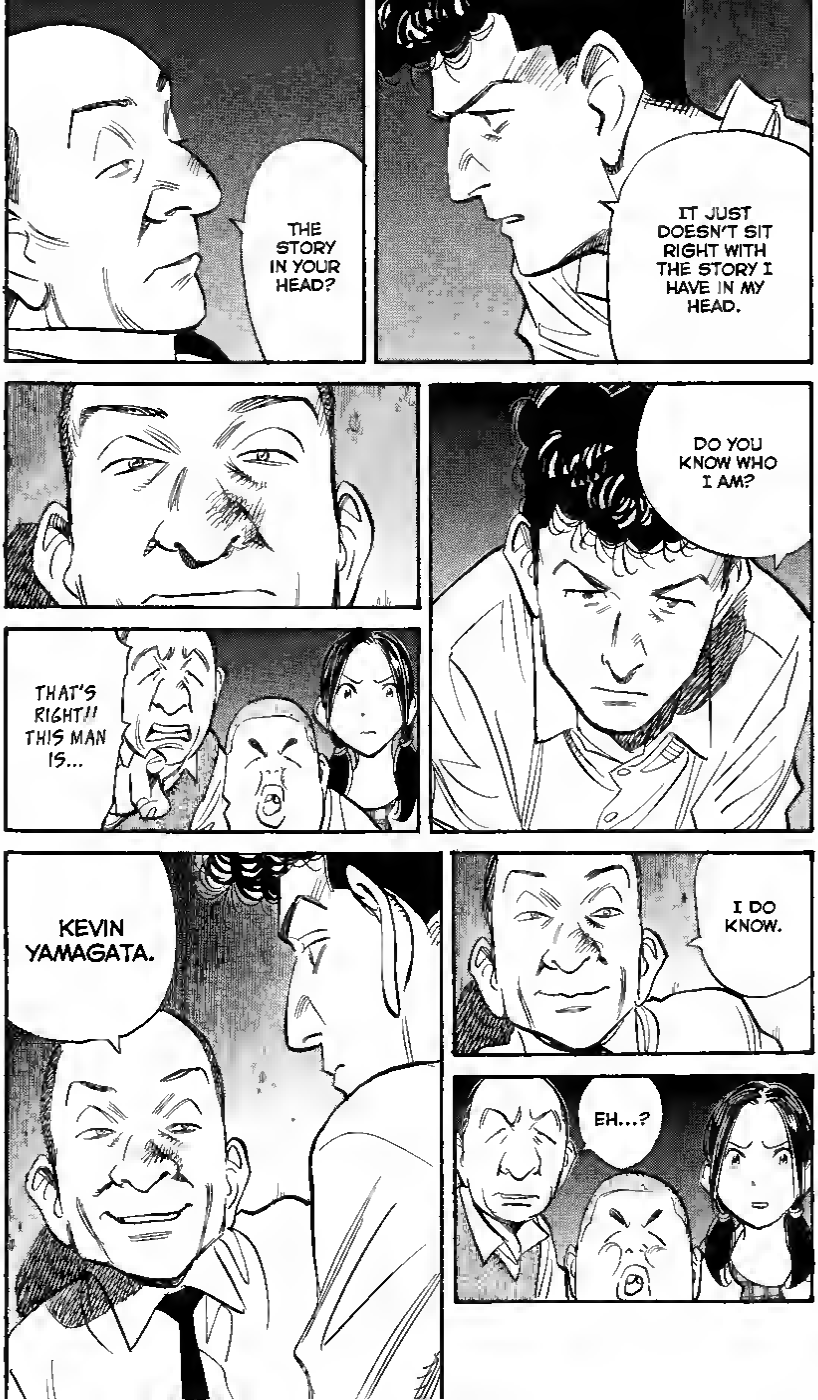

I... I REALLY DON'T KNOW...
GUH UAH!!
WHAT HAPPENED TO SENSEI?! YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU?!!
LIAR!! SENSEI SAID HE WAS GONNA PROTECT THE VILLAGERS FROM YOU!!
STOP, YAMASHI-TA-KUN!!
LET ME GO!!
GU HUU!!
BUT EVEN SO, THE VILLAGERS WENT ALL WEIRD LIKE THAT!! WHAT'D YOU DO?!!
SETTLE DOWN. WE'LL ASK HIM ONE THING AT A TIME.
THIS GUY'S A BAD GUY!!
WHAT HAPPENED TO SENSEI?!!
CALM DOWN!!

I'M CERTAINLY NOT A BAD GUY LIKE THAT ONE IS SAYING.
WHO ARE YOU?
I'M ASKING WHAT YOU CAME TO THIS VILLAGE FOR!!
AN AMUSEMENT PARK...
I ONLY CAME HERE IN ORDER TO BUILD AN AMUSEMENT PARK FOR CHILDREN TO ENJOY.
AND ALSO, HE GAVE OUT PATCHES TO KIDS.

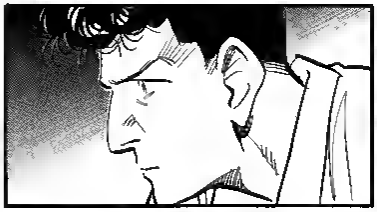
PATCHES?
YES. BILLY BAT ONES.
IS THE AMUSEMENT PARK BILLY LAND...?!
OVER SOME TIME, THE VILLAGE MAYOR, ELDER, AND THE DEPUTY MAYOR SUCCESSIVELY MET WITH MISFORTUNE...
AND I ENDED UP IN THIS SITUATION...
IN THE END, THE VILLAGERS STARTED ACTING VERY ODDLY...

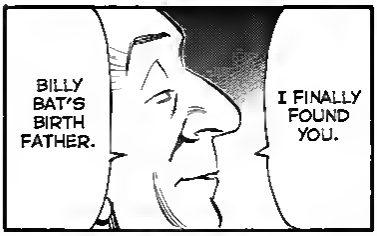
THE VILLAGERS ALL STARTED BLURTING OUT
THAT THE MAYOR AND THE OTHERS WERE KILLED BY A SUICIDE DISEASE THAT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE...
SUICIDE DISEASE ...?
YES IT'S QUITE LUDICROUS.
AND THEY ALSO SAID THAT THE METHOD FOR PREVENTING INFECTION WAS WRITTEN ON A SCROLL.
A SCROLL ...?
THEN THE VILLAGERS STARTED INTENTLY DIGGING HOLES ALL OVER TOWN REGARDLESS OF IT BEING DAY OR NIGHT.
APPARENTLY IT'S BURIED SOMEWHERE IN THIS TOWN.
ALL WHILE GETTING COVERED IN MUD...


I'M A VICTIM IN THIS MATTER.
NOW, PLEASE UNTIE ME.
BUT IT SEEMS THEY STILL HAVEN'T FOUND THE SCROLL.
YES. IT'S A LIE.
THAT'S A LIE!!
I DUNNO... I COULDN'T TELL WHERE THE LYING BEGAN OR ENDED IN THAT STORY.
WHAT EXACTLY DID I SAY THAT WAS A LIE?
WHAT ...?


THE STORY IN YOUR HEAD?
IT JUST DOESN'T SIT RIGHT WITH THE STORY I HAVE IN MY HEAD.
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
THAT'S RIGHT!! THIS MAN IS...
KEVIN YAMAGATA.
I DO KNOW.
EH...?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU.
NOT ONLY DO I KNOW YOU,

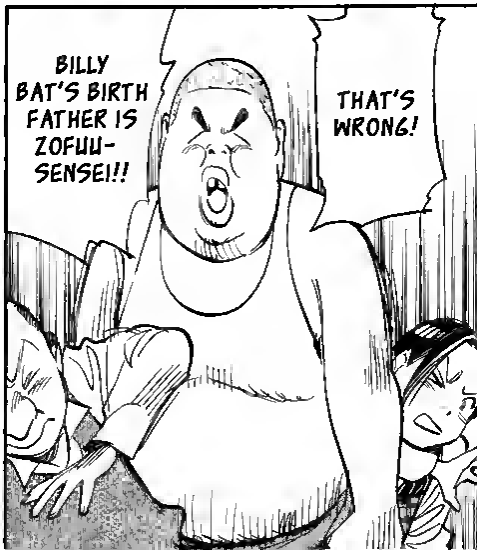



BILLY BAT'S BIRTH FATHER.
I FINALLY FOUND YOU.

THERE'S NO WAY AN EMPLOYEE OF CHUCK CULKIN ENTERPRISES TRAVELING THE WORLD IN ORDER TO BUILD A BILLY LAND...
WOULDN'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

YES.

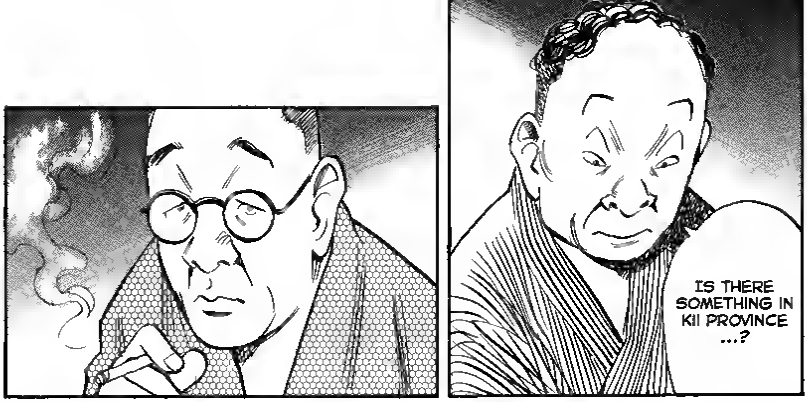
THAT OPINION IS ALSO CORRECT.

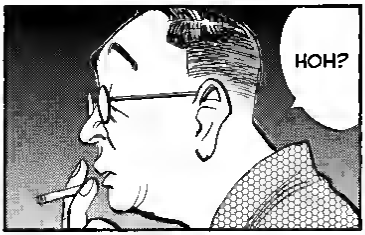

BILLY BAT'S BIRTH FATHER IS ZOFUU-SENSEI!!
THAT'S WRONG!

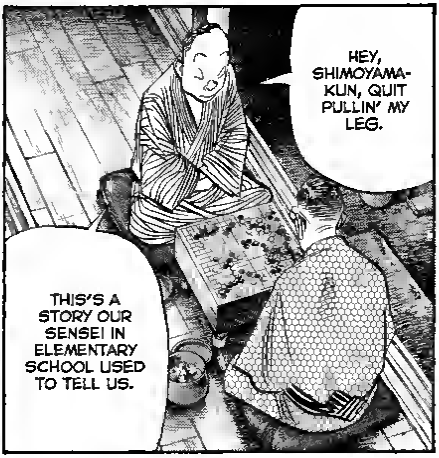
WHAT DID YOU SAY-?!!
HOWEVER, THAT SENSEI DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE BILLY BAT WELL.
I'M HOPING FOR YOUR COOPERATION, KEVIN-SAN.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN THE ORIGINAL CREATOR, ZOFUU-SENSEI, DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE HIM?!!
HUH?
YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN ANYONE.
THERE'S NO NEED TO ASK ME...
COOPERATION? WITH WHAT...?

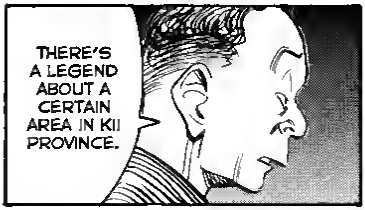
BILLY BAT IS A DEMON.
.....
I HOPE THAT YOU WILL LEND ME YOUR POWER.
FOR THE SAKE OF HUMANITY, FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN,
ZOFUU IS GOING TO USE BILLY BAT...

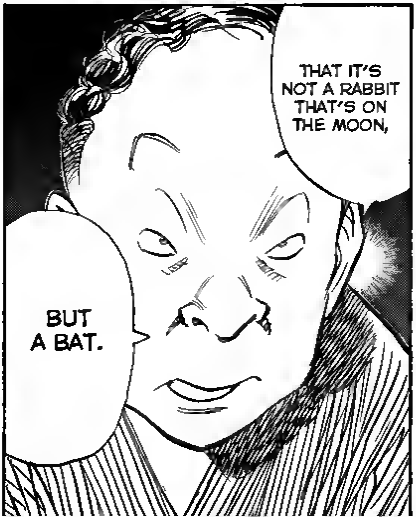
TO TRY AND CHANGE HISTORY.
PISHIH



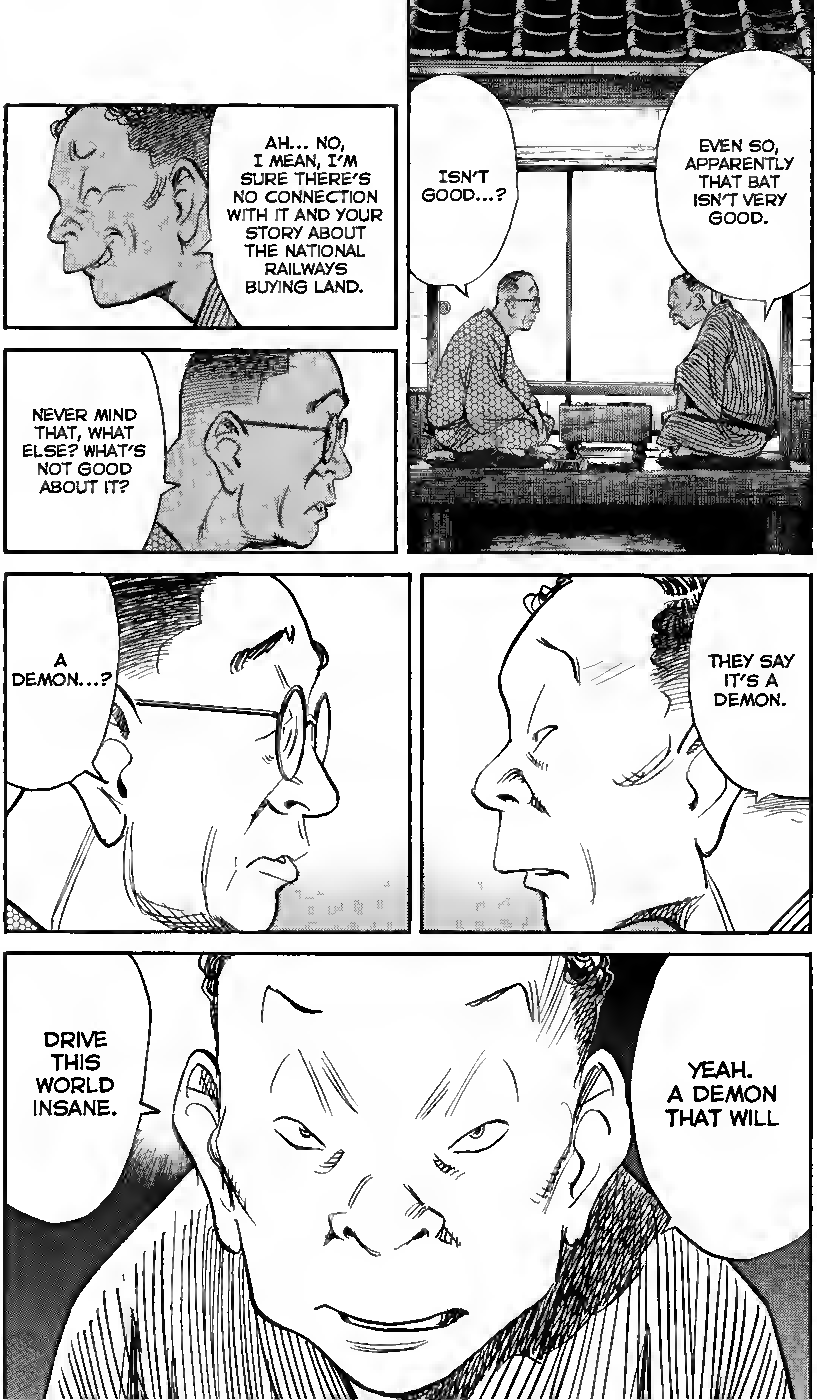


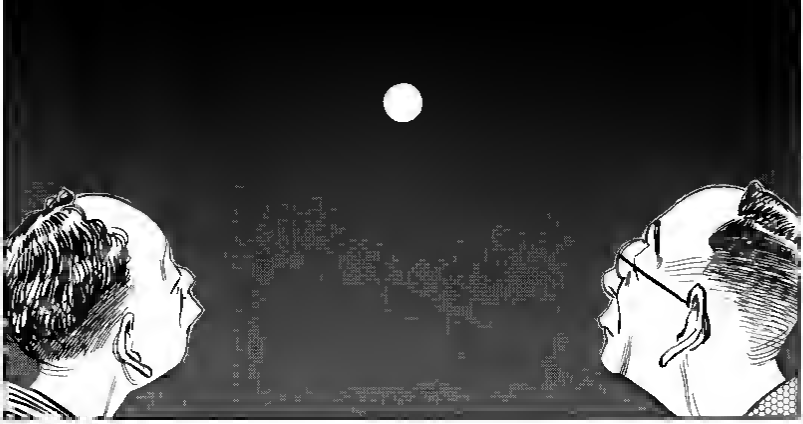






T/N: THERE IS AN EASTERN-ASIAN FOLKLORE THAT THERE'S A RABBIT THAT LIVES ON THE MOON BASED ON THE THE SHAPE OF THE CRATERS AND MARKINGS ON THE MOON FORMING A RABBIT SHAPE.


AH... NO, I MEAN, I'M SURE THERE'S NO CONNECTION WITH IT AND YOUR STORY ABOUT THE NATIONAL RAILWAYS BUYING LAND.
ISN'T GOOD...?
EVEN SO, APPARENTLY THAT BAT ISN'T VERY GOOD.
NEVER MIND THAT, WHAT ELSE? WHAT'S NOT GOOD ABOUT IT?
A DEMON...?
THEY SAY IT'S A DEMON.
DRIVE THIS WORLD INSANE.
YEAH. A DEMON THAT WILL



A DEMON, HUH...?